

**FOREST WIN THE EUROPEAN CUP
ENGLAND BECOME BRITISH CHAMPIONS**

SHOOT!

23rd JUNE, 1979

18p

Kings of Europe. Forest's Peter Shilton and Trevor Francis with the European Cup.

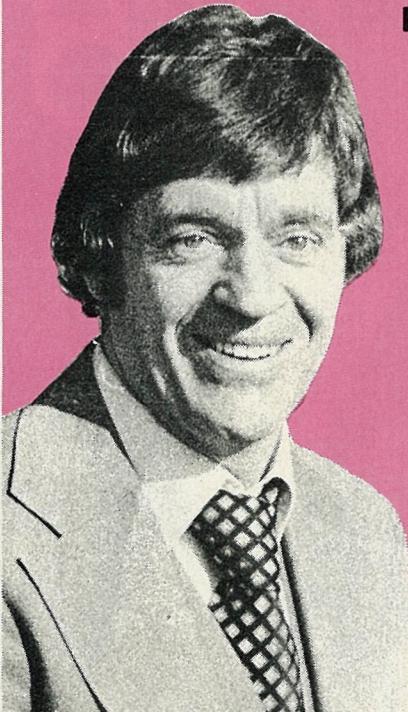


Starts inside: **SOCCKET IN THE STATES**

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'BIG-TIME SOCCER — A HARD SCHOOL TO MASTER'

says Lawrie McMenemy



NEWCASTLE United fans are thrilled with the success of Alan Shoulder. The former Blyth Spartans Cup hero has been a tremendous hit in his first season in the Football League at the mature age of 26.

His instant impact has prompted speculation that other Northern League players could shine in the professional ranks at a time when League clubs are paying out fortunes on the transfer market.

The non-League clubs have criticised their "big brothers" for neglecting talent on their own doorstep.

On a recent visit to his native North-East, Southampton manager Lawrie McMenemy (left) stressed that professional football is a hard school to master.

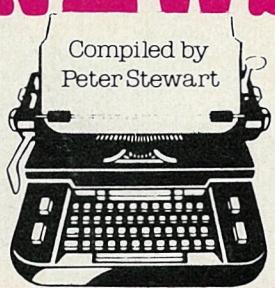
McMenemy, who began his career as a manager with the famous Bishop Auckland, says: "I had some tremendous players when I was with the Bishops. Yet I know half of them would have crumbled in a professional dressing-room."

"The switch is not as easy as many people believe. There is the world of difference from being a bread and butter player to one who has to rely on the game for a living. Ability apart, there is discipline and commitment."

McMenemy said Shoulder had done well and he was delighted with his achievements. Yet the real test would come if the former miner was still scoring goals in 12 months' time.

NEWS

Compiled by Peter Stewart



DESK

JOHN CURTIS, the 24-year-old Blackburn full-back, has been a professional footballer for eight and a half years but asks for nothing more from the game than a regular place in his League side.

Curtis, who had nearly five years with Blackpool and played 122 games for them, moved on to Blackburn in July, 1977, but looked to be out in the cold again when named in the free transfer list.

He was signed again last August and has really shown what he can do. But he says: "I just want to play regular League football after two years of bad luck."

FORMER Middlesbrough and Doncaster Rovers full-back Peter Creamer, who helped Rochdale to avoid seeking re-election, is to emigrate to Australia.

THE Buckley brothers may not be viewed as exactly top-line stars, but did you know that they're the only pair of brothers ever to have both been sold for six-figure fees? Left-back Steve cost Derby County £166,000 to Luton Town in January, 1978, and Birmingham City paid Walsall £200,000 for striker Alan last October.

TONY KINSELLA, the 17-year-old Millwall midfielder, knows the London scene pretty well. He trained with most of the clubs in the capital when he was a schoolboy.

Young Tony has another claim to fame. Although born in Thurrock, Essex, he has been selected for the Republic of Ireland Youth side.

BASS LEAGUE OF IRELAND 1978-79 FACTS...

THE 240 games played in the fifth and last Bass League of Ireland produced 700 goals. That's an increase of 49 from last season and works out at an average of 2.91 goals per game. ONE hundred and seventy-nine players scored 681 of the total, the remaining 19 were own-goals.

SHELBOURNE'S John Delamere was the top scorer with 17 goals, two of which were scored while he was with Sligo Rovers.

DROGHEDA UNITED were the top scorers with 60 goals. THE Super Sub was Harry McLoughlin. Sligo Rovers' winger was called from the bench on ten occasions in addition to the 13 games he started in. Despite their lowly position in the table, Galway Rovers were right up with the leaders in the regular goalscoring chart. Galway, Athlone Town, Drogheda United, Dundalk and Waterford, all scored in 26 of the 30 games.

IN A competition sponsored jointly by the 'Sunday Independent' and the Irish Nationwide Building Society, Cork Alberts' Redmond Lane was named Player of the Year in Eire. Lane has since joined Manchester United.

Dundalk left-full Martin Lawlor won the Most Improved Player award.

Scots bid for Finals

THE SCOTTISH F.A. want the 1984 European Championship Finals to be staged in Scotland.

They are hoping to win the vote after outlining the improvements being made to top stadiums. Work on the new Hampden is due to start at the end of the year, and improvements are already being made to Ibrox and Celtic Park.

The Edinburgh grounds and Aberdeen's all-seated Pittodrie would also feature in the planning.

"By 1984 all our stadia should be ready for major games," says S.F.A. secretary Ernie Walker.

Sorry, Terry

IT APPEARS I made a slight error in May 26th NEWS DESK, when mentioning Terry Paine's Football League appearance record. I stated he played 821 times. It should have been 824, of course.

A friend of Terry's, Susan Prowting, was kind enough to point out the mistake.

"Terry's proud of that record," says Susan, "and will be upset at you missing those last three games out."

Sorry, Terry!

'Shilton as good as Clemence'

— Emlyn Hughes

PETER Shilton has edged up to become as good a goalkeeper as Ray Clemence his England rival. Who says so? None other than Clemence's Liverpool teammate Emlyn Hughes.

Emlyn admits: "Up to the start of last season, I had long maintained that Ray Clemence had the slight edge on Shilton because of his handling and ability to make unorthodox saves.

"Now, I consider there is nothing to choose between them."

Brighton's Super Fan

IS MRS Delia Wood Britain's Champion football fan?

Mrs Wood, 79, celebrates her Diamond Jubilee (60 years) of support for Brighton and Hove Albion next season.

Mrs Wood, a season ticket holder at the Goldstone Ground, started watching Brighton's games with her late husband Albert, a grocer, in 1919.

Now, she attends matches with her daughter Mrs Eileen McLoughlin.

Her favourite player over those years? Bertie Longstaff. He was the one I liked best."

Top Cop Ronnie!

FREESCORING Northern Ireland policeman Ronnie Bell, the former Linfield goal-ace, could be in line for a senior recall in the near future.

A string of Irish League clubs are keen to obtain the 24-year-old prolific marksman's much-wanted signature, following his notching around half-a-century of competitive goals for the talent-laden R.U.C. team, which, in 1978-79, won the Irish F.A.

Intermediate Cup, were runners-up to London Metropolitan Police in the British Police Cup, and came third in Section One of the Irish "B" Division Championship.



GARRY BIRTLES, Nottingham Forest's striker, received his Young Player of the Year Trophy from West Brom manager Ron Atkinson, at the Midland Soccer Writers' Dinner recently.



NOTABLE SECOND!

THE soccer statisticians who proclaimed Brian Talbot (above, right) had created a unique record by becoming the first player to win a F.A. Cup winners' medal in two consecutive seasons with different clubs have obviously not done their homework.

In fact, Hon. A. F. Kinnaird achieved this distinction in 1878 and 1879 when he turned out for The Wanderers and Old Etonians respectively.

FACTastic

JERRY Dawson set up a club goalkeeping record when he completed 530 League games for Burnley during 23 years' unbroken service at Turf Moor. Yet he never won a Cup medal. When Burnley won the trophy in 1914 Jerry was forced to withdraw from the side with injury. Alex Stepney must have wondered if the same disappointment was to be his lot. He was a member of Manchester United's losing side at Wembley in 1976, but a year later, after 410 League appearances for United he gained his coveted medal, to add to his European Cup Winners' gold in 1968.

YOUNG PALACE

CRYSTAL Palace will be one of the youngest teams — perhaps THE youngest — in the First Division next season, but chances are they'll also be one of the brightest.

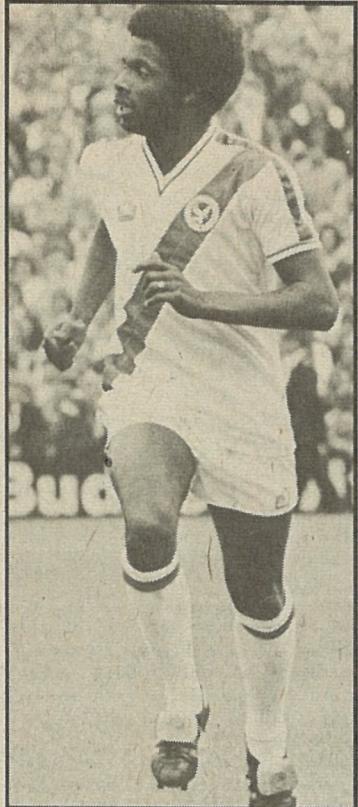
Terry Venables has a side bursting with talent and even he has been surprised at the progress made, considering 1978/79 was the first full season for many of his starlets.

Black forward Vince Hilaire (right) has so much natural skill he could easily develop into one of the country's truly great players.

Venables says: "Vince hasn't been a regular, although he's played more games than he's missed. You must remember it's easier for destructive players than constructive ones to make their mark. This is why Billy Gilbert and Peter Nicholas have been a little more consistent; their tasks are mainly to defend."

One player to keep a special eye on is midfielder Jerry Murphy, who oozes class in the Tony Currie mould.

"We call Jerry the Perry Como of the field — he could play in his best suit!" jokes Venables.



• MR. TERJE RIIS, has written to me from Norway saying he would very much like to start a Scandinavian branch of the Crystal Palace Supporters' Club.

As SHOOT is widely read in that part of the world I'm sure he will have a good response.

Scandinavian readers interested should write to Mr. Riis, Haukev 2, 1340 Bekkestva, Norway.

MARCHING ORDERS



BIRMINGHAM City's Belgian-born Pat Van der Hauwe was given his marching orders last season ... but made a swift about turn.

For Pat shocked the club by announcing he had been called up for military service by Belgium. But Birmingham and Pat were given a quick reprieve when they found the service could be deferred for five years ... by which time he could well be a British citizen and no longer have to endure military service at all.

• Birmingham team-mates Paul Ivey (left) and Paul Brady (right) have a message for Pat.

UNITED TOP OF THE FAIR PLAY LEAGUE

MANCHESTER UNITED are Fair Play Champions for the third season in succession.

"That's some consolation for losing the F.A. Cup Final," says manager Dave Sexton. "I'm glad we've been able to carry on the United tradition. It is a complete vindication of the way the game should be and can be played."

United were one of ten First Division clubs who didn't have a player sent-off last season. Their total number of bookings, 13, was the lowest, and they conceded only two penalties.

It is noticeable that West Brom, Liverpool and Forest, the first three in the Championship race, were high in the Fair Play placing, indicating that clean play pays.

Chelsea, despite their relegation, also had a commendable record on the field.

The Fair Play League is compiled by the Daily Mail and Vernons Pools. I'm surprised it doesn't receive the recognition it deserves.

	Played	Freakicks (1 pt.)	Penalties (5 pts.)	Bookings (20pts.)	Sentings Off (50pts.)	Total Pts.
Man. Utd. (9)	42	488	2	13	0	758
Notm. F. (2)	42	494	4	15	0	814
W. Brom. (3)	42	547	2	15	0	857
Chelsea (22)	42	493	2	19	0	883
Liverpool (1)	42	469	1	23	0	934
Bolton (17)	42	472	5	22	1	987
Wolves (18)	42	452	9	25	0	997
Tottenham (1)	42	516	8	23	0	1006
Arsenal (7)	42	513	6	21	1	1013
Man. C. (15)	42	523	2	25	0	1033
Bristol C. (13)	42	509	7	23	2	1104
Norwich (16)	42	596	4	22	1	1106
Ipswich (6)	42	570	6	27	0	1140
A. Villa (8)	42	556	6	27	1	1176
Middlesbro. (12)	42	567	5	29	1	1222
Coventry (10)	42	630	4	30	0	1250
Leeds (5)	42	631	7	28	1	1266
Derby (19)	42	562	7	30	2	1297
Southampton (14)	42	598	0	33	1	1338
Everton (4)	42	540	3	40	1	1405
Birmingham (21)	42	617	5	33	3	1452
O.P.R. (20)	42	526	7	43	1	1471

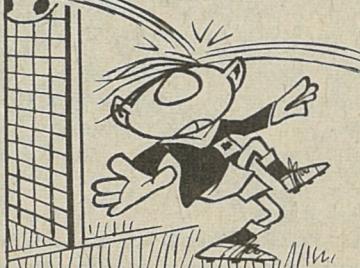
(League positions in brackets)

NOBBY

THAT NOBBY WILL BE
THE DEATH OF ME!!



HE PUT ONE THROUGH HIS OWN
GOAL IN THE VERY
FIRST MINUTE



DON'T WORRY, BOSS, I'LL GET
ONE AT THE OTHER END,
YOU SEE IF I DON'T!!



AND HE DID . . . HALF
WAY THROUGH THE
SECOND
HALF!!



'MY TOP TEN GOALS'

"GOAL!" The four-lettered word that assails my ears like an obscenity whenever I stoop to pick the ball out of the net.

Even though I conceded only 16 goals — a record in the League last season — I begrudged the opposition every one of them. My particular "impossible dream" is a season which ends with my keeping a 42-game clean sheet.

Being a goalkeeper I have to suffer the fact that fans mainly come to see the goals being scored and not saved. Goals, to coin the age-old cliche, are what the game is all about — it's currency by which clubs are measured.

But like everyone else, I enjoy the sight of a well-struck goal, and can even indulge myself in the luxury of admiring those driven past me.

For this column I'd like to run my mind's eye over the past season, and recall at random the ten best goals I saw.

With Liverpool having clocked up an impressive League score of 85 — enough to win the £50,000 prize offered by Corals and The Sun newspaper — it's natural that the first off the memory bank is one scored by our own Anfield genius, Kenny Dalglish.

He conjured it out of almost nothing in the first F.A. Cup Semi-Final against Manchester United, played at Maine Road, and which we believed at the moment of scoring would take us into the Final at Wembley.

It was a typical Kenny goal. He began with his back to the goal and was tightly marked by several United players, yet succeeded in scoring.

It began with the ball being played to him by Jimmy Case. Kenny, about 12 yards out from the goal-line with two United defenders

RAY CLEMENCE talking soccer

at his back, turned like a flash with the ball seemingly glued to his feet, and arrowed goalwards.

After drawing the young 'keeper Gary Bailey from his line, he coolly took the ball wide, and drove it past the covering Jimmy Nicholl. A thoroughly clinical, professional effort by the most deadly finisher in the Football League!

Unfortunately the match finished 2-2 which took us to a replay at Goodison Park. It is history now that a goal by Jimmy Greenhoff wrecked our Wembley chance, but although it was well-taken I don't rate it amongst my ten best.

Number two is also down to one of my Liverpool team-mates, Ray Kennedy, amongst the finest volleys of a ball in the game today.

Scorer of two goals in our 4-1 away win over Bolton, it was the first that had that extra-special stamp on it.

Jimmy Case, wide on the right-hand side of the field, knocked the ball into the Bolton box. Sam Allardyce and Kenny competed for it, only for it to skid off their heads to Ray on the 18-yard line.

Without hesitating for a split-

second, Ray connected with a superbly-timed half volley to send the ball flashing into the right-hand corner of the netting past Jim McDonagh.

Bolton's Frank Worthington, a truly larger-than-life character, proved his worth to Bolton by ending the season as the First Division's top scorer in the League with 24 goals. So it's only fitting that I place one of his efforts, seen on TV, amongst my selection.

It happened in a game against Ipswich. Frank, with his back to the goal on the edge of the box, received the ball on his thigh, and proceeded to juggle with it as three Blues defenders converged on him from behind.

One of the trio — I think it was Terry Butcher — made the fatal error of coming in too close, hoping to kick round him. Like some circus performer, Frank lifted the ball back over his own head and that of the defender, swivelled through 180 degrees, and ran on to the ball as it bounced.

A crashing half-volley and the helpless 'keeper Paul Cooper barely glimpsed the ball as it rocketted past him!

Star goal number four brings back a painful memory — of the night we were effectively knocked out of Europe, robbed of our aim of achieving three European Cup wins in succession, by then Football League Champions Nottingham Forest, in the first-leg of the First Round at the City Ground.

Newcomer Garry Birtles had put



Forest ahead, but we weren't too worried about having to pull back one goal in the second-leg at Anfield. Then Forest got their second, scored by full-back Colin Barrett, to make our task harder.

The fateful move began when we lost possession in midfield; Birtles raced down the left with the ball, hotly pursued by Jimmy Case; Jimmy missed his tackle; Birtles drew Phil Thompson, beat him, and crossed to the far post.

Tony Woodcock was there to meet it, in a perfect position to head for goal. Instead he nodded it down for Colin Barrett to volley past me.

As things turned out, that second goal proved to be unnecessary, for Forest held us to a goal-less draw at Anfield and went on to eventually win the Final in Munich.

For my fifth most memorable goal of last season I chose one from the seven we put home against Spurs at Anfield in the League.

Both Kenny and David Johnson scored twice, Ray Kennedy once, Phil Neal converted a penalty kick, and Terry McDermott got the final one.

And what a magnificent seventh! For those of you not fortunate enough to see it either at the match or on TV, I'll go through the sequence of moves that brought it about.

A Spurs corner landed at the feet of Ray Kennedy, standing on the edge of the penalty box, with Terry actually behind him on our goal-line helping me out. Ray carried the ball a few yards before releasing it to David Johnson in the centre-circle. From there the ball was worked out to Steve Heighway on the wing.

Stevie crossed the ball, and Terry who had run the full-length of the

Number seven
Kenny Dalglish —
a deadly finisher.





field, headed past the dazed Barry Daines to score one of the most spectacular, stunning goals in the history of Anfield.

There was an interesting sequel to it. The training staff asked the same set of players to re-enact the goal at Melwood, on our practice pitch. And against no opposition, they couldn't do it!

Another goalscoring midfielder of note is Arsenal's Liam Brady, who impressed me with a mighty, curving shot past the other Spurs' keeper Mark Kendall in a North London derby.

Liam helped to disprove the myth that only foreign players are skilful enough to bend the ball into the net.

In today's football, where the players can readily interchange positions, every outfield player invariably gets into the goalscoring charts. With Forest, right-back Viv Anderson collected nine goals last season.

And from them I pick the one he scored against Everton in a League Cup-tie as seventh on my list.

Similar to that he scored against AEK Athens, it was the result of a run from the halfway line and a full-blooded drive with the outside of the right foot.

The shot, entering the goal at the left-hand corner, left Scottish 'keeper George Wood grabbing at thin air.

Last season's League Cup Final, which ended 3-2, rates amongst the most exciting at Wembley. Southampton scored first, but Forest fought back to take the Cup.

From the five goals, I'd single out Saints' second scored in the dying minutes by Nick Holmes, as the most outstanding. Their corner, part cleared by Larry Lloyd, fell to Nick, who promptly let loose with a cracking half-volley that bored past a diving Peter Shilton.

No 'keeper on earth could have stopped it!

A biting-cold winter's day, with sleet lashing down on Old Trafford was hardly a promising setting for what turned out to be one of the

truly classic games to be played last term.

Between Manchester United and West Bromwich Albion, who at the time were pushing us for the top of the table spot, the game ended 5-3 to the Midlanders.

The opening goal of the game, my ninth selection, set the scene. Scorer was United's Brian Greenhoff.

Now Brian doesn't get many goals, but when he does it's often a gem.

A United corner, half-cleared by a West Brom defender, dropped to Brian fully 20 yards out from goal, to be volleyed in a arc over the fingertip of Tony Godden.

You'll notice I have a preference for picking goals hit on the volley or half-volley. This is simply because they are the hardest to strike correctly. Timing has to be spot on. All too often the ball skews wide of goal and puts spectators to flight!

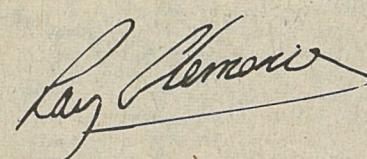
My final choice — number ten — comes from the same game, and was scored by West Brom's Len Cantello, who has now moved on to Bolton.

It put his side 2-1 ahead, and typified the colourful, exciting style in which they have played to finish in third place, and once again qualify for the U.E.F.A. Cup competition.

A clever back-heeled pass from Cyrille Regis — and Len was running in to hammer the ball home into the right-hand corner of the Stretford End goal.

Well, I hope you've enjoyed reading about my top of the shots — even though your favourite team might have been on the receiving end of one of them!

Meet me again next week when I'll be once again talking soccer —



Frank Worthington scored after some amazing ball-juggling.

GOAL-LINES

Send your letters to STEVE CARTER, GOAL-LINES, SHOOT!, IPC Magazines Ltd., King's Reach Tower, Stamford St., London SE1 9LS. £3 for the Star letter — £1.50 for every other letter published. When writing to us please mention the two features you liked best in the latest issue of SHOOT!

This week's Star Letter comes from Andrew Miller of Brooklyn, New York, who wins our Special Prize of £3. He writes:

CITY NOT SO SLICK

MOST deserving of the charge of bringing the game into disrepute are Coventry City. I write this letter and I am absolutely livid after having witnessed their completely inept display against the Cosmos ... a Cosmos team, I might add, minus Beckenbauer, Tueart, Chinaglia and Seninho.

Coventry, who carried the flag, or at least represented some of the best of British football, did nothing but disgrace themselves or their country. The only entertainment they provided was to spread laughter around the stadium as the depleted Cosmos put on a dazzling display.

My point is — why allow these sides a holiday under the guise of playing? If the players wish to see New York let them get here like everyone else at their own expense.

Imagine the reaction of my American friends upon witnessing this sorry display, especially after my continual promise of them seeing a first-class team.

I can tell you, not one of the 30,000 people who saw the game would ever become a fan of British football.

So please, SHOOT, Football Association, Football League or whoever it takes, ban these foreign tours unless the clubs involved realise they are accountable for their performances ... if for no other reason than to spare us exiles the despair.

For the record, the Cosmos won 3-1, a scoreline which flattered City.

● Unfortunately, Coventry boss Gordon Milne was not available for comment.

Open letter to Scots

THIS is an open letter to all Scotland fans, especially Danny McGrain. Stop boring us! Your League is pathetic and your goalkeepers better employed in a circus.

As for loyal fans — what a laugh! 32,000 at Rangers/Hibs Cup Final, pathetic. Crystal Palace had 51,000 for a Second Division game. Manchester United would have filled Hampden twice!

If Celtic and Rangers are your best, then God help you. All talk of them finishing in our top six ... no

chance. They'd only last a season, the next in the Second Division.

As for your regular pilgrimage to Wembley, which McGrain never shuts up about, I'm not surprised you want to leave Scotland, the rubbish you watch up there. Why not move to Liverpool or Nottingham?

By the way, well played lads in the World Cup, particularly in holding Iran to a 1-1 draw. I don't feel sorry for Scotland — they still talk about Bannockburn ... can you imagine if they'd done well in Argentina?

No doubt a load of angry Jocks will reply saying "Where were England?" I'll tell you: the same place as Scotland would have been had they been in Italy's group.

I'm thinking of writing to your Premier Division sides for a place. Anyone must have a chance in the nets!

ALAN WALLACE,
STOCKPORT.

● We've had quite a few "subtle reminders" about Scottish boasts since the British Championship. I think Alan wrote with his tongue firmly in his cheek! No English fan must forget one of the main reasons the First Division is so strong is because of the Scottish stars.

Justified Increase?

CAN someone please point out the justification for the 50 per cent increase in admission prices to be introduced by some clubs next season? As I understand it, inflation is running at ten per cent, so a 50 per cent increase is five times that amount.

Just imagine the outcry if anything else went up by 50 per cent! But, oh no, the poor old soccer fan is expected to have a bottomless pocket and pay up.

CALUM CURTIS,
EASTLEIGH.

● If a team is promoted, or has vastly improved its facilities, then a fair increase is to be expected. But when a club remains in the same Division and isn't really giving its fans better value, then the supporter rightly has a case for being unhappy.

Manners Sir!

FRANCIS was a disgrace to the game at Birmingham. The words are Peter Taylor's not mine. If Nottingham Forest's assistant manager wants Forest to emulate Liverpool, he could do with their social graces.

TOBY GILES,
BETHERSDEN.

WEST Bromwich are my choice as the team with the best defence, with Alistair Robertson and Derek Statham as the two men who are mainly responsible for making the back four so efficient. Alistair Robertson is one of the most under-rated defenders in the First Division, and Derek is one of the best young full-backs around, based on my experience of playing against them last term.

The maturity of John Wile, too, is an asset in the Albion back-four, which as a unit is organised, always knows what it intends to do, and is positive at all times.

Garry Birtles immediately springs to my mind when I think of

OUR favourite soccer writers and television football presenters have given their verdicts on the 1978-79 season.

The fans have pored over every aspect of the campaign in even greater detail than the experts. "Didn't Kenny play well?" "That lad Thomas, what a good buy for United." "Cyrilie shoots faster than Wyatt Earp." "Brady's worth life membership of the Magic Circle." "Greenwood. What a nice man — and what a good manager." "Cloughie ought to be a politician . . ."

Now, SHOOT invites the players themselves to contribute to the fascinating debate. We asked four star First Division forwards to reveal their thoughts on major topics of interest arising from one of the most exciting seasons since the last War.

believe he could play anywhere and acquit himself well, and I know that he can be as effective in midfield as up-front, a man who can lay on chances for others and is himself a first-class finisher.

The best goal I saw scored against Ipswich last season was whacked into the net by that fellow you can't keep out of the news, Kenny Dalglish. It was the occasion of the Ipswich-Liverpool F.A. Cup-tie in which the score-line was reading 0-0 before the Dalglish technique paid off. He had Terry Butcher on his back, but somehow Kenny managed to keep him off, then turned on a sixpence to hit the ball home. It was not

Four First Division forwards are unanimous . . .

the best attackers I met last season, particularly when there are not many promising young attackers in the game at the moment. In the case of Birtles, I automatically link him up with Tony Woodcock in the Nottingham side, because the pair of them are so good in the work they do together. Woodcock can turn very quickly against people, often without stopping the ball, and this is a tactic that defenders hate when it is used against them. Garry, very sharp in the penalty-area, shares something else with Tony in addi-

'Silkman chipped a goal from 35 yards'

MIKE CHANNON (Manchester City)

tion to the great understanding they have together — both of them are experts at getting behind defenders, which for me is the true test of a forward's ability.

Then of course I can't leave out Kenny Dalglish, who thoroughly deserved his Footballer of the Year Award, and who had a tremendous season in 1978-79. In addition to the assets that make him such a danger to the opposition, I think that Kenny's greatest attribute is his football brain — he knows what is going on more than most players.

The best goal I saw scored against Manchester City last term was netted by Garry Birtles, and to get it he required vision, heading ability and courage. The move was started by Trevor Francis on the left, and he pinged the ball to the near post — there were plenty of bodies in the area, but it was Garry who raced in to connect with his head, to direct the ball into the roof of the net.

Barry Silkman notched the best goal for Manchester City against Ipswich, when he picked up the ball near the halfway line. Barry had shaken off one opponent, and as the goalkeeper advanced, chipped the ball over his head from 35 yards. It was a beautiful goal, and to be scored in that way and from that distance, Barry had to demonstrate fine ball control, judgment and perception.

DIDN'T THEY



Manchester City's Barry Silkman.

No doubt at all as to the best defence I played against last season — it must be Liverpool's. And the two men at the heart of the defence, in the middle of the back four, are Alan Hansen and Phil Thompson. These two support each other so well in everything they do that Ray Clemence behind them gets maximum protection.

And Clemence himself, when the pressure is on him, comes through superbly. His reading of the game is very accurate, enabling him to race out and at times make clearances outside his penalty-area. But basically, when I think of the Liverpool defence, it's not a matter of it comprising only two or three star players — it's a case of ten men moving back to defend when necessary, a complete team effort.

Then, even when they are in tight situations, Hansen and Thompson are able to play their way out of trouble coolly and efficiently, and are usually in command whether the ball is in the air or on the floor.

'Pele couldn't have scored a better goal' —

CLIVE WOODS (Ipswich)

The best attacking player I met last term was Kenny Dalglish, because whatever he does he does well. Kenny is a hard worker with class, and his sharpness on the ball keeps opposing defences off balance. In every aspect of the game, he excels — holding the ball, creating shooting space and his unerring goal sense when he is in the box.

Garry Birtles is another player who gets my vote for his attacking qualities. Garry has clever ball control, can score goals, and looks quick in possession.

Also, there is Trevor Francis. Trevor has taken time to settle down since being transferred for that much-publicised £1m, but I rate him as the complete footballer. I

only the best goal recorded against us — it was the one that brought me the biggest disappointment, because it came out of the blue at a time when I thought we could win the tie.

Alan Brazil scored the best goal of the season for Ipswich when we played Chelsea, and anyone who saw it could understand why we nickname Alan "Pele".

Alan had collected a long through ball, and he hammered it past Peter Bonetti from 25 yards with his left foot, the ball hitting the underside of the crossbar before ending up in the back of the net. Bonetti could hardly have seen the ball, and Pele couldn't have scored a better goal.

THE best defence I came up against last season was Liverpool's — it was so good that I recall walking off the field at the end of a match at Anfield feeling frustrated. I think we managed only one shot at Ray Clemence, because the cover his back-four gave him operated with 100 per cent efficiency.

And in the Wolves-Liverpool match at Molineux we found once again that we had failed to score against them, even though we put a lot of pressure on them in the second-half. Liverpool always seemed to have seven or eight men behind the ball when they were forced back, but more than that, they are really prepared to work for each other — to me, this is a major reason for their success.

'Ritchie's a great striker'

JOHN RICHARDS (Wolves)

Yet although Liverpool's cast-iron defence is very much a team effort, I have to mention the work of centre-back Alan Hansen. He is young, a good player and I think he will become a great player. Then there is Ray Clemence, who

usually is only beaten by a spectacular shot — and some spectacular work has to be done to create an opening for that shot against the tight marking of his defenders. Lastly, if any proof is needed of the class of the Liverpool defence, just check their goals-against column.

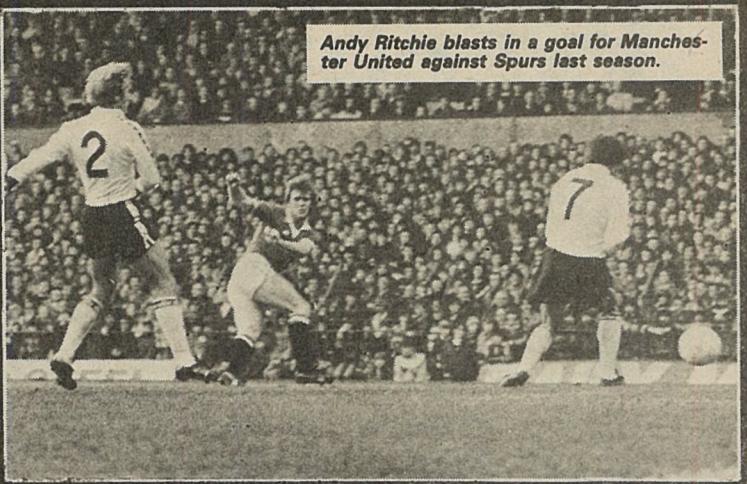
The best attacking players I met last term were Garry Birtles of Nottingham Forest, Andy Ritchie of Manchester United, and Kenny Dalglish of Liverpool. All three impressed me, and each one of them had his own characteristics.

Birtles is very cool and collected near goal, especially when it's considered he is not experienced. His role in the Forest side is a very effective one, as he makes a great target man for Tony Woodcock. And regarding Ritchie's ability —

tremendous 30-yard shot that simply ripped into the roof of the net. Even though it was scored against us, I had to admire that goal.

The finest goal scored by Wolves last term was one hit by Bill Rafferty for us against Shrewsbury in the Sixth Round of the F.A. Cup. There was only eight minutes left for play and the score was 0-0 as we attacked them and Bill challenged for the ball inside their penalty-area. He was falling back as the ball bounced in front of him, and he hit a half-volley from eight yards with his left foot — his "wrong" one — his shot zoomed into the net at the junction of the post and crossbar and we thought it had won the match for Wolves — instead, Shrewsbury came back to equalise.

Andy Ritchie blasts in a goal for Manchester United against Spurs last season.



has played against him!

The best goal scored against Coventry last season was registered by Laurie Cunningham. Laurie collected a through ball, and when our 'keeper, Jim Blyth went out quickly to meet him, Laurie "bent" a shot over his hands to score when a goal hadn't really looked on. And the whole operation, the style and balance of Cunningham, made everything about the goal first-class.

The finest goal I saw scored by Coventry last season was against Everton. A ball through the middle was played to Ian Wallace, and as he picked it up, he was tackled by Everton defender Colin Todd. But Ian managed to turn Colin, then moved into the box to volley the ball home.



Alan Brazil of Ipswich.

his style of turning with the ball and running at defenders when we played Manchester United made me wonder how they could possibly leave him out of the team. He's a great striker.

Kenny Dalglish, of course, immediately springs to my mind as a man who can not only score "cheeky" goals, but whose all-round work on and off the ball makes him terribly difficult to mark out of a game. This is always the case when we meet Liverpool.

Best goal scored against Wolves? For me, it had to be a beauty netted by Birmingham's Ainscow in a 1-1 draw we had with them last season. He set off from near the halfway line, beating two men in his run, then finished with a

WEST Bromwich had the best defence I met up with in 1978-79 season, with John Wile as the man who controlled his back-four skilfully and made them difficult to pass.

It's not too much to say that John's presence on the field can put opposing young strikers off their game — and not because he is rough or dirty in his tackling. His secret lies in judging his tackles perfectly, as compared to those defenders who charge in wildly because their timing is at fault.

And overall, Wile's experience steadied the West Brom rearguard under pressure, and made it an important factor in keeping Albion up among the leading clubs right through last season. With his positional sense, and ability in the air, John was able to prevent opposing strikers finding a way through the middle — also, good organisation by West Brom on the flanks gave their defence the necessary balance to hold off attacks.

'Laurie bent a shot past Blyth'

TOMMY HUTCHISON
(Coventry City)

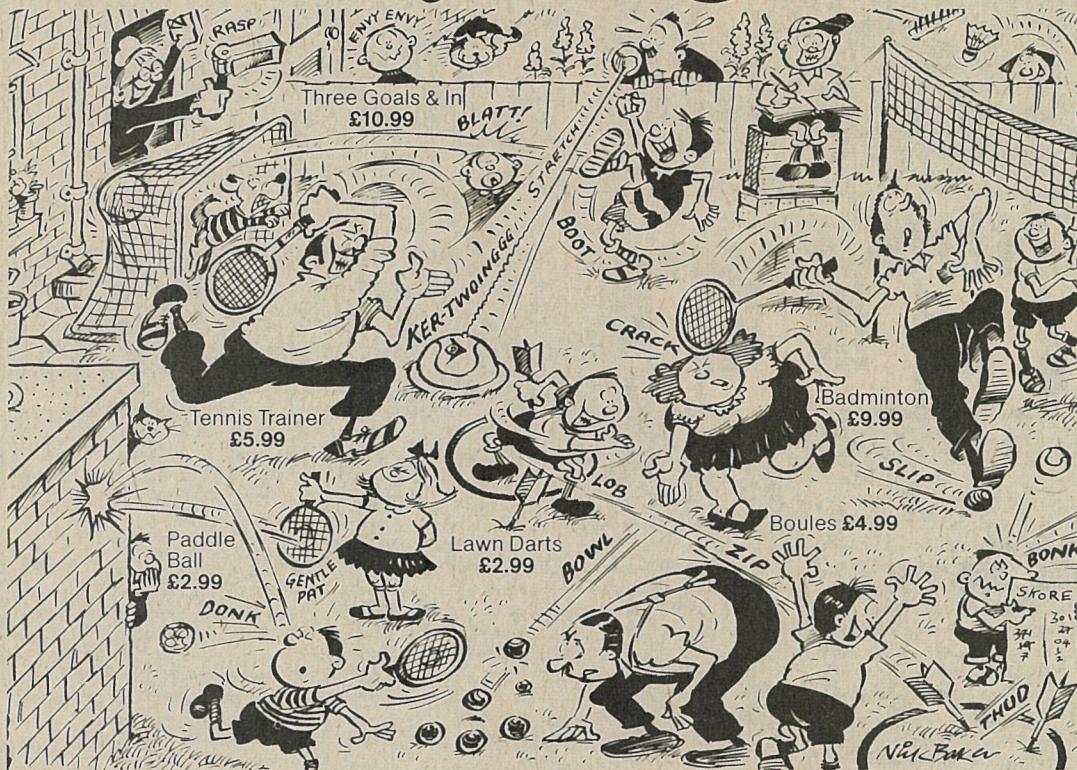
To me, the best attacking players I opposed last term were Kenny Dalglish, Laurie Cunningham and Garry Birtles. Among them, this trio had all the attributes essential to players who not only create goalscoring opportunities, but also know how to accept them. As an attacking player myself, I'm able to admire the part they have played in the good results achieved by their clubs, Liverpool, West Brom and Nottingham Forest.

Kenny Dalglish is most dangerous to defenders in the way he "cons" them — he holds the ball, is terribly difficult to tackle and dispossess, and devastating when he lays the ball off after having drawn the defence. Added to all this, he keeps on scoring goals, which he did so consistently well for the



West Brom's Laurie Cunningham (stripes) shields the ball from Peter Cormack of Bristol City.

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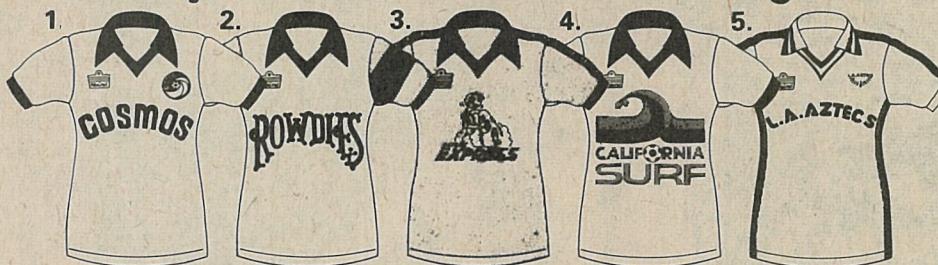


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DUNDEE Home	S/Boys	Boys	Youths	S/Mens	
C. PALACE Away	S/Boys	Boys	Youths	S/Mens	
EINTRACHT Away	S/Boys	Boys	Youths	S/Mens	
BAHRAM	S/Boys	Boys	Youths	S/Mens	
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LEEDS Away	S/Boys	Boys	Youths	S/Mens	
WALES Home	S/Boys	Boys	Youths	S/Mens	
SAUDI ARABIA	S/Boys	Boys	Youths	S/Mens	
SHEFFIELD Home	S/Boys	Boys	Youths	S/Mens	
LEICESTER Home	S/Boys	Boys	Youths	S/Mens	
LEICESTER Away	S/Boys	Boys	Youths	S/Mens	
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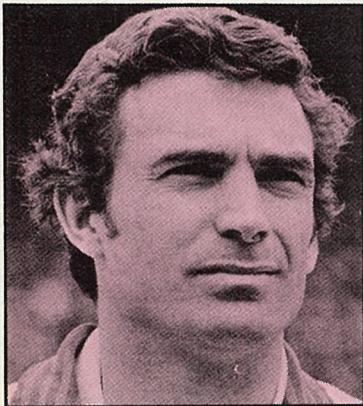
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PLAYERS' VERDICTS ON THE BRITISH CHAMPIONSHIP



'It meant a lot to win the title'
— Trevor Brooking

THE turning point in the British Championship came when England's manager Ron Greenwood made a tactical change at half-time with his side drawing 1-1 with Scotland at Wembley.

Trevor Brooking reveals that Greenwood decided to push Phil Thompson forward to mark Kenny Dalglish more closely.

"Dalglish had played more or less as a midfield man in the first half and Scotland were outnumbering England in the middle of the pitch.

"Then Phil sat on Dalglish and we were much better, taking control for the first time, and finally winning the game 3-1 — and the Championship."

Trevor Brooking was instrumental in producing the killer goal by Kevin Keegan that destroyed Scotland's chances in the 69th minute.

"It was one of those unplanned moves, inspirational if you like," says Brooking. "Kevin and I have developed a fine understanding and the moment I saw him running at the Scottish defence I knew something was on."

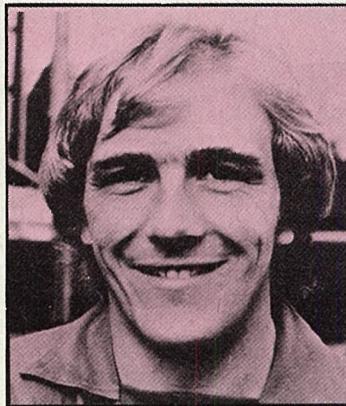
"He flicked a pass to me, I laid it back in his path, and he scored. As simple as that. They call it a wall pass. A lot depended on the weight of my pass and fortunately it was right."

Brooking selected new caps Kenny Sansom and Laurie Cunningham as the "finds" of the tournament.

"Sansom, in particular, was impressive against Wales. He's so sharp, so strong with so much acceleration for a full-back. I roomed with him and can tell you he has no nerves. He was more worried about getting 24 tickets for his family than he was in playing his first game for England.

"And it was good to see Emlyn Hughes play well against Wales. He kept it very tight at the back.

"What a pleasure it is to play in this England team. We're so geared to attack."



'A lot of young players were introduced'
— George Wood

GEORGE Wood went the way of several Scottish goalkeepers at Wembley — back to the dressing-room after an international against England in misery.

He was dwelling on his blunder in the 63rd minute which gave England a 2-1 lead through Steve Coppell.

Ray Wilkins shot fiercely from the left side of Scotland's penalty-area, the ball squirmed from Wood's grasp, and the Manchester United winger punished his error in a flash.

Six minutes later Kevin Keegan put victory beyond Scotland's reach by exchanging passes delightfully with Trevor Brooking before burying a shot wide of Wood.

It spelled the end of Scotland's hopes of producing a glorious victory after poor performances in the British Championship. They were beaten 3-0 by Wales and had to be content with a 1-0 victory over Northern Ireland.

George Wood, who won his first two Scottish caps in the Championship, was disconsolate but hopeful for the future.

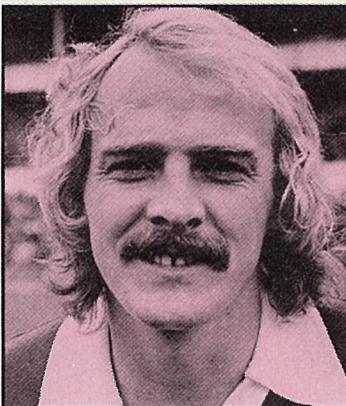
"A lot of young players were used in the Championship and Mr Stein is building for the future," Wood explains.

Wood's mistake? "No excuses. Nine times out of ten I would have held Wilkins' shot. I'm not sure my critics appreciated just how greasy that ball was, like a bar of soap.

"I watched the television film of the match that night and winced when I saw it. A quick beer and I went off to bed early.

"I was still brooding on Monday when a 'phone call lifted my heart. It came from Bob Wilson, the former Arsenal and Scotland goalkeeper. He told me not to worry about my performance. I was a First Division goalkeeper worthy of my Scotland place.

"Nothing is certain in football. It is a lottery but I believe I'm good enough to play for Scotland."



'Next year we'll go one better'
— Terry Yorath

WALES confirmed in the British Championship that they have developed not only a club spirit but play their football like a League side.

Terry Yorath, the Welsh captain, was delighted with their performance in coming second to England and threatening at one stage to win the title outright for the first time since 1937.

"We've only got a few players to choose from but Mike Smith is making the most of the resources available.

"It was great to see John Toshack making a comeback. His game has changed, he's more thoughtful than before and just as dangerous in the air.

"Alan Curtis and Robbie James are exceptionally talented. We have yet to see the best of Curtis, for until he plays in the First Division with Leeds United next season his true potential will not be revealed.

"You need to play First Division football to become an established international."

Wales' 3-0 victory over Scotland was the highlight of the week, said Yorath, but he was impressed with the fight the team showed in holding England to a 0-0 draw at Wembley.

"We were not so impressive on the Friday in drawing 1-1 with Northern Ireland. Danny Blanchflower's boys had something to prove after playing badly in their two previous games.

"But Mike Smith called us together at our Championship camp after returning from Belfast and congratulated us on our performance.

"Next year we'll go one better and win the Championship."



'Key players were missing through injury'
— Pat Rice

NORTHERN Ireland, wooden spoonists in this year's British Championship, were the victims of tiredness and injury.

That was Pat Rice's verdict on his country's disappointing performances in taking only one point — against Wales — from three games.

"It was the end of a long, long season and felt like it," said the Northern Ireland and Arsenal full-back. "I'm not sure the Championship should be played at this time.

"We were also suffering from injury. Allan Hunter, Martin O'Neill and David McCreery were all missing and they're key players for us. Their absence was too much to overcome with so few players available to Danny Blanchflower.

"We played badly against Scotland and England, but pulled ourselves together against the Welsh.

"We improved as the Championship went on and are not too despondent about the future.

"We felt we'd let the Irish public down against Scotland and England. There was no passion, possibly because of the long season.

"I personally think footballers need a longer rest than they get between the end of the season and the start of the next.

"Danny Blanchflower was pleased that we pulled ourselves together. He's a delight to work with. 'Let me do the worrying' he says. 'I'll take the stick, you get on with the game'. It's a pleasure to play for a man like that.

"We shall be better next year, mark my words."

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
ENGLAND...	3	2	1	0	5	1	5
WALES.....	3	1	2	0	4	1	4
SCOTLAND	3	1	0	2	2	6	2
IRELAND.....	3	0	1	2	1	4	1



Kevin Keegan — what a super third goal he scored — and SHOOT columnist Gordon McQueen in a heading duel.

Scotland new boy John Wark, who scored their only goal, comes away from Trevor Brooking.



It's McQueen on the attack this time, forcing England goalkeeper Ray Clemence to fist the ball away.

SCOTS THEN FIGHT





ON TOP— ENGLAND BACK!

PERHAPS Scotland only have themselves to blame for losing at Wembley, but England's 3-1 victory meant that for the second successive year they are British Champions. After dominating the first-half, Scotland conceded a "daft" goal on the stroke of half-time . . . and after the interval England's experience, not to mention skill, came out on top.



Mick Mills and Joe Jordan tussle for possession at Wembley.

The men who did the 'impossible' at Anfield...

MISSION Impossible — that would be a fair description of the task facing sides who visit Anfield.

That football fortress, home of the slick, well-drilled machine they call Liverpool, survived another 21 League visits last season without a single defeat.

They say a visit to Anfield is a striker's nightmare. Visiting sides normally wrap themselves in a defensive shell in the hope of grabbing a point which means that forwards rarely see a lot of the ball.

So SHOOT congratulates the following four marksmen — Ally Brown of West Bromwich Albion, John Hawley of Leeds, Paul McGee of Q.P.R., and Andy King of Everton.

They're the four aces from a First Division pack of strikers who actually managed to find a way past the brick-wall defence of Liverpool and goalkeeper Ray Clemence.

They succeeded where everyone else failed in a season that saw the League Championship return to Anfield after what the fans on the famous Kop called a loan period to Nottingham Forest.

Maybe Brian Clough will have something to say about that but there's no denying Liverpool earned the title with a series of impressive displays and a level of consistency previously unmatched in this country.

To concede just four goals in avoiding defeat in 21 home games is a considerable achievement and it is ironic that the people who scored the goals are four of the game's most under-rated players.

It was on the opening day of the season that Clemence conceded



the first of his four goals. The scorer was Paul McGee of Queens Park Rangers who went down 2-1, the first of many defeats that saw the Londoners relegated at the end of the campaign.

McGee only cost £15,000 from Sligo Rovers less than two years ago and has been well worth his fee. If he is one of the players not added to the transfer list by new boss Tommy Docherty then his goals could help Rangers to return to the big-time.

Twelve Anfield games later Clemence was beaten again, this time by John Hawley of Leeds who were one of only two sides to earn a draw in front of the Kop. The others were Merseyside rivals Everton whose point was earned by an Andy King goal in March.

King enjoyed that goal but not half as much as the one he rifled

past Clemence in the fixture at Goodison Park five months earlier when Liverpool suffered their first defeat of the season.

King must be one of the best bargains ever. An all-action, energetic midfield man, Billy Bingham bought him for Everton from Luton Town at a cost of just £30,000 in 1976 and when current Goodison boss Gordon Lee pushed him into attack this season he responded with a hat-trick in the 4-1 win over Bristol City.

Hawley also grabbed his fair share of the Leeds goals following his £70,000 move from Hull City last season. A big, brave player, he



ABOVE, LEFT ... Q.P.R.'s Paul McGee.
ABOVE ... Andy King of Everton.
BELOW ... West Brom's Ally Brown.



found the net on 16 occasions in the League — not bad for his opening season in the First Division.

The last time Clemence had to pick the ball out of his own net was when King scored but the England 'keeper then kept a clean sheet for the remaining seven games at Anfield.

Ally Brown's goal for West Bromwich Albion came in Liverpool's 2-1 defeat of their nearest challengers in February when Anfield throbbed to a pulsating, top-of-the-table clash.

Brown cost Albion £60,000 from Leicester City in 1972 and has been scoring regularly ever since. His goals played a big part in keeping his side's title hopes alive until very near the end of the season and it is surprising that Jock Stein has overlooked him for Scotland honours.

While Brown, King, Hawley and McGee deserve a special pat on the back, however, the real glory belongs to Liverpool who broke all the records in clinching the title for the third time in four years.

The club's 11th Championship success was achieved with a record points total of 68, beating the previous best of Leeds United who chalked up 67 points in taking top place ten years ago.

Opposing sides drew a blank against Ray Clemence on 28 occasions, and in scoring 85 goals the Liverpool players reached another all-time 'high' which earned them a bumper payout of £50,000 from a national newspaper.

And in conceding only 16 goals in 42 games they took another swipe at last year's Champions, Nottingham Forest, who shared with Liverpool a record in conceding only 24.

Records, records all the way and although the new season is still several weeks away Liverpool are the side they'll have to beat if the destination of the Championship is to change. As if the other 21 First Division sides didn't already know what to expect when they visit Anfield next here is the Liverpool home record over the last five years.

Season	Pos	P	W	D	L	F	A Pts
1978-79	1	21	19	2	0	51	4 40
1977-78	2	21	15	4	2	37	11 34
1976-77	1	21	18	3	0	47	11 39
1975-76	1	21	14	5	2	41	21 33
1974-75	2	21	14	5	2	44	17 33
Total		105	80	19	6	220	64 179

John Hawley beats Liverpool's Ray Clemence to score for Leeds at Anfield.

The start of a new summer series...

**Rodney Marsh —
'No longer the
Clown Prince'**

AT 34, Rodney Marsh has finally decided that he wants to lose his image as the Clown Prince of Soccer.

Marsh, captain of Tampa Bay Rowdies, says: "I can see myself playing for another two or three years. And when I'm finished, I don't want people to remember me for being soccer's Clown Prince. I would rather them remember me as someone who could play."

"I think I play in a way that reflects my lifestyle. You have to have a certain amount of spontaneity in soccer to be creative — it's the same for most great players."

"I really don't fool around anymore. Every town I go to, people ask me about my reputation. But even the fooling around I used to do was exaggerated."

"When I was 20, I enjoyed the reputation. But now I disagree with what people say about me."

Commercial Breaks

THE ABC television network has signed a contract which allows them to screen nine NASL matches this season.

Apart from money, of course, the factor that caused the biggest wrangle between the TV company and the soccer people was how they were going to incorporate the commercials in the broadcast.

With soccer a game of near continuous action, there's no way the ad men can hope to get their customary four commercial breaks per 30 minutes and still capture all the action.

It's now been decided that the ads will only break in at goal-kicks and when injuries and substitutions take place.

If a goal is scored during the break, it will be shown immediately the game comes back on the screen.

Early Sackings

THE sacking season has started early this year — with three former British managers among the casualties.

Eddie McCreadie at Memphis was replaced by player-manager Charlie Cooke. The pair were, of course, once at Chelsea.

The second sacking concerned another manager-coach partnership who were previously colleagues at the same London club.

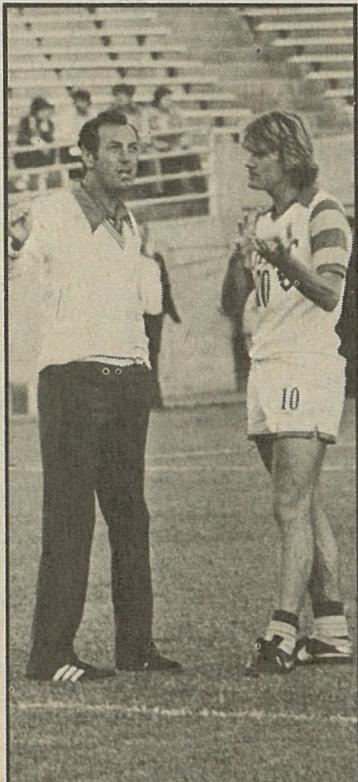
John Sewell, formerly of Palace, has been replaced at California Surf by Peter Wall, also ex-Palace.

And Eddie Firmani parted company with the Cosmos.

Best Blow-up

MANAGER Ron Newman is clearly a man who knows how to handle temperamental players.

SOCER in the STATES



ABOVE . . . Rodney Marsh with Gordon Jago.

BELOW . . . Fort Lauderdale coach Ron Newman (centre) with some of the players at his previous club Dallas Tornado.



New Yankee

THE Cosmos, hot favourites for their third successive NASL title, have proved that it's quite easy to get round the law forcing sides to play at least two Americans every game.

All you have to do is get some of your long-serving players to take out national citizenship.

Georgio Chinaglia, who once played in Wales, has just become a fully-fledged Yankee, so the Cosmos now need to field only one other home-produced player per game.

Cheer Person

WHEN the Cosmos held auditions for their 1979 cheerleader squad, they had applications from 250 women and one man.

The fella lost his nerve before it came to revealing a shapely leg but the girls went through an exhausting series of tests and interviews to try and make it into the final 16.

All for 15 dollars a game!

Unwanted Record

POOR old Terry Fisher. The former college coach who was coach of the Los Angeles Aztecs until being sacked last season, jumped into the fire when he joined the even worse San Jose.

San Jose, just up the Californian coastline, claimed the unwanted League record of 13 defeats in a row.

The Ruffians

THE Tulsa Roughnecks have just formed an official supporters' club. Members will be known as The Ruffians, which isn't the most original name so far.

It's not, however, as corny as the tag carried by the Memphis Rogues' fans. They're known as The Rogues Gallery. Yuk!

Good ship Leicester gets a rudder

LEICESTER City manager Jock Wallace is convinced he has laid the foundation at Filbert Street on which the club can mount a realistic challenge for promotion.

Wallace celebrates his first anniversary at Leicester this month after joining them from Rangers and although he has no trophies to show for his efforts he says: "I think we have made headway."

The Scot explains: "When I arrived Leicester City was like a ship without a rudder. They had just been relegated and were drifting along aimlessly. Something had to be done quickly or there was a good chance they would have dropped straight into Division Three."

Wallace set about trying to instil what he describes as: "Discipline, spirit, morale and respect."

He says: "There was a shroud of apathy and disillusionment hanging over the ground and it seemed to affect everyone. It was something I found hard to understand after leaving Rangers where there is total commitment at every level and I made up my mind to get rid of this 'shadow' as soon as possible."

Wallace set about his task by introducing a frightening pre-season training schedule, including the much publicised running up and down sand dunes at a local quarry.

He says: "Some of the players thought it was a joke. Needless to say they did not start the new season with the club. Others buckled down to it and convinced me they were the ones I wanted."

Wallace also decided to gamble on an adventurous youth policy and by the end of the season he



Jock Wallace

had fielded four 16-year-olds and more than half a dozen other players under-21.

He says: "Players at that age have everything to play for and you are guaranteed enthusiasm and 100 per cent effort. Things gradually started to click into place and the atmosphere at the club began to improve. At last I detected an air of determination."

An end of season injury crisis, which ruled out Leicester's three most experienced players, coupled with a run of poor results looked as though it might undo Wallace's good work.

They nose-dived from a position of mid-table respectability to the fringe of the relegation area and at one stage it seemed as though Leicester might go down for the second year running.

But Wallace says: "Fortunately the good habits I had started to instil helped to pull us through, although it was a worrying period which I never want to go through again."

Wallace is now looking to youngsters such as Larry May, Andy Peake, David Buchanan, the more experienced Bobby Smith, Martin Henderson and Eddie Kelly, and new signings Gregor Stevens, £175,000 buy from Motherwell, and the highly rated Ian Wilson from Elgin City, to provide the backbone for a promotion push.

He says: "The Second Division will be as tight next season as it was last but by the start of it we will be a far better equipped side than we were last August. If we can tuck a good start under our belts, who knows what might happen."

"For some of our youngsters last season ended too soon and they can't wait to get back on the field again in August."



Andy Peake

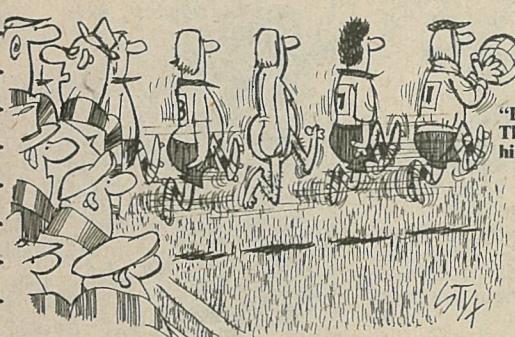
FOOTBALL FUNNIES



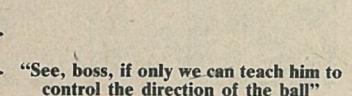
"The boss put my transfer value at £50.50 pence. They are now haggling over the 50 pence"



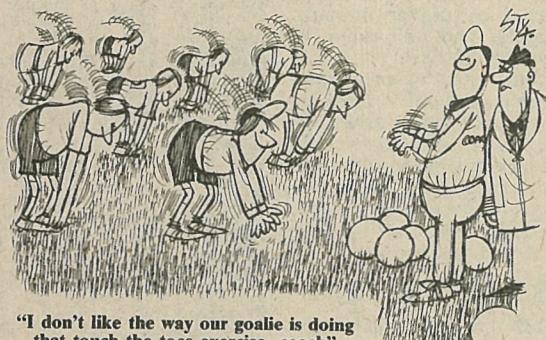
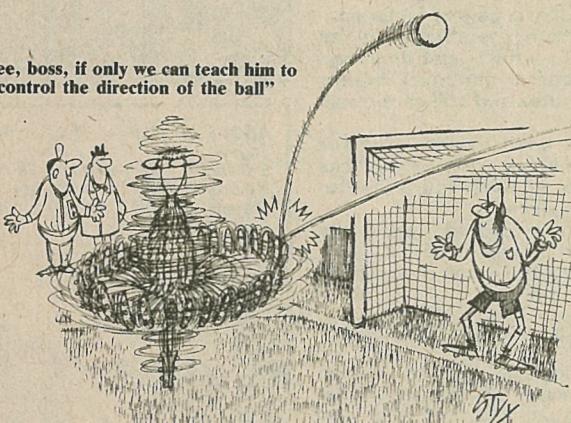
This week West Bromwich Albion's captain JOHN WILE selects the jokes specially drawn by our cartoonist Styx.



"It's a barefaced cheek. The way he parades himself as the last of the individuals"



"See, boss, if only we can teach him to control the direction of the ball"



"I don't like the way our goalie is doing that touch the toes exercise, coach"

THE controversial Brian Clough labelled them 'Southern Softies' — a description that angered Arsenal coach Don Howe.

Clough, outspoken boss of European Cup holders Nottingham Forest, used the term in talking about Southern clubs' lack of success in the First Division title race.

And although it upset many people there clearly is a grain of truth in what he says.

For clubs from the Southern half of the country have won the Championship only three times in

our tip to emerge as the team of the 80's.

The potential at Selhurst Park is unlimited. They have some of the finest young players in the business, like England's new cap Ken Sansom, Vince Hilaire, Billy Gilbert, Ian Walsh, Jerry Murphy and Terry Fenwick.

All played a major part in Palace's surge to the Second Division Championship providing a conclusive answer to those who doubted the teenagers' ability to come straight from the Youth

The night Palace clinched promotion — and Second Division title — by beating Burnley 2-0 an incredible crowd of nearly 52,000 packed into Selhurst Park.

So they have a fanatical following, as well as a great bunch of players, to back their bid to break the North's stranglehold.

Another Second Division team who might cause a stir next season are Fulham.

They were many people's favourites to go down last time. But boss Bobby Campbell did a

marvellous job in difficult circumstances and put together a team that were challenging for promotion for much of the season.

Perhaps it was no bad thing when their challenge died before the end. For it gave them breathing space to plan — and strengthen if necessary, for the gruelling months ahead.

The Craven Cottage club certainly impressed former Liverpool chief Bill Shankly, who described them as 'one of the best footballing sides I have seen'.

Fulham's remarkable resurgence last season surprised a lot of people, probably themselves as well!

But it won't surprise anyone if they make the running again in 1979-80. And as they, too, have a very young side they can be expected to make a continued impact.

Another club fancied to achieve big things are Watford — but in their case it is clearly going to take a bit longer.

Two years ago they were a mediocre Fourth Division side. Now they kick-off next August in the Second Division.

It is an incredible rise, master-minded by brilliant young manager Graham Taylor.

But putting together a team good enough to win the top honours is only part of Taylor's problem. He is more than capable of doing that.

Giving Watford facilities to go with the big time is another matter. The Vicarage Road ground is hopelessly inadequate and antiquated and they will probably have to move elsewhere to realise all their ambitions.

With Taylor in charge and Elton John in the chair it won't be too long before Watford are a big name — and joining the queue of Southern sides ready to push Clough's words back where they came from.

A warning to the big guns of the North and Midlands —

'SOUTHERN SOFTIES' WILL GIVE YOU A HARD TIME

the past 24 years!

The last to pull it off were Arsenal, in their 'Double' year of 1970-71. Tottenham did the same ten years earlier and Ipswich won it in 1962.

The best the South have managed in the eight years is two second places — Arsenal in 1973 and Queens Park Rangers in 1976. Ipswich also finished third in 1975 and 1977.

The picture is brighter in the F.A. Cup — with Arsenal winning this year and 1971, Ipswich in 1978, Southampton in 1976 and West Ham in 1975.

But, for many long years, the Southerners have had to sit back and watch the likes of Liverpool, Leeds and Manchester United dominating the domestic scene.

Nasty shock

Now there are signs all that could be changing. Things are happening that could give a nasty shock to the knocking Northerners... the Southern "softies" are suddenly getting "hard" centres.

Arsenal rammed Clough's taunt back down his throat by knocking Forest out of the F.A. Cup and going on to win the trophy.

They did it with a team that has still to reach its peak and the future looks brighter at Highbury now than it has for many years.

Howe, who will probably never forgive Clough for that jibe, certainly thinks so, anyway.

For when Irish ace Liam Brady ran across to thank him after Arsenal had just won the trophy by beating Manchester United in a Wembley classic, the Arsenal coach commented: 'This is just the beginning.'

So look out for BIG things from Arsenal, a big club in every way. They think big, act big and are never afraid to spend big to strengthen their squad.

Another club set to break through in a big way are Crystal Palace, newly promoted to the First Division.

Palace, superbly managed and coached by Terry Venables, have so much going for them they are



team into the senior side.

They made the switch brilliantly and looked as though they had been playing at the top level all their lives.

All these lads helped Palace to win the F.A. Youth Cup two years in succession and they are cast iron certainties to have a bright future in the game.

Sansom has already made the breakthrough to the full England squad, for this season's British Championship, and others will follow in time.

John Cartwright, who recently left Palace to become full-time boss of the England youth team, coached all these youngsters from the day they went to Selhurst Park. He has absolutely no doubts about their ability to make an impact on the game's elite.

"They will take the First Division by storm," he declares. "They are players with skill, strength and experience, even though most of them have just completed their first full season in the League."

Arsenal players Pat Rice (left), Graham Rix (centre) and Liam Brady parade the FA Cup.

Almost 52,000 packed Selhurst Park to see Crystal Palace beat Burnley 2-0.



ALTHOUGH the European Championship is the most important competition for England this year, it was still very satisfying to win the British Championship by beating Scotland 3-1 at Wembley. That was my second successive domestic title and it was even better to clinch it at Wembley, albeit in front of about 70,000 Scots!

That match was my 21st for England and it was good to sit down afterwards and know that I'd still only been on the losing side just once, against the then reigning World Champions West Germany in Munich in February, 1978.

I'm 22 and I've been fortunate enough to build up a nice collection of caps. Naturally, I want more, but there are so many younger players pushing for their chance I know I've got to be at my very best to stay in the team.

To be honest, had Trevor Brooking been fit to play in Belfast, I believe I would have been one of the subs. Ron Greenwood may have kept faith with Trevor and Tony Currie, who combined well as play-makers against Northern Ireland in our 4-0 European Championship victory earlier this year. Trevor's troublesome ankle wasn't quite 100 per cent, so I was in. That's the way things go in soccer; I missed the previous game against Ireland because I wasn't fit and the next time I played because someone else was unfit.

I was very nervous before my England "comeback". In fact, I'd never been so on edge. I'd not had the happiest of seasons with Chelsea, although I was reasonably happy with my own recent form. With the transfer business coming to the fore, I knew all eyes would be on me. Thankfully, such is the spirit of the England squad it's possible for players to forget any club worries. Mind you, I roomed with Peter Barnes, who was on the verge of leaving Manchester City, so we had one common interest to talk about!

Overall, I was pleased with the way I played in the three games, with the possible exception of against Wales. The game in Belfast wasn't exactly a classic. England



'CHAMPIONS

**RAY
WILKINS**
Writes for you

scored two early goals and they killed the match.

I was still going flat out after the break, but those with more experience than me told me to slow things down. There was no point in wasting energy — as it was, I developed cramp late in the game as Danny Blanchflower had not selected me for Chelsea's last matches and I was short of match practice.

I was glad I had a hand in Steve Coppell's goal. I'd like to get on the scoresheet myself, although to lay on goals for Stevie against Ireland and Scotland was rewarding. After all, it doesn't really matter who scores.

Ireland have limited resources and were hit by the unavailability of two or three players. The pitch was bumpy and it was windy. The fans didn't seem to get going and all in all it was an international to forget. Having said that, when we return to Belfast for the European Championship tie later this year things will be completely different and our 2-0 win will mean nothing then.

All the players expected changes for the Wales game and it was only fair that loyal members of the squad should get a run-out.

Someone like Joe Corrigan has

little opportunity at his level with Ray Clemence and Peter Shilton around and I was pleased for him — he did well, too, I thought.

It was understandable that the team's rhythm was upset, yet we created sufficient chances to have won. Credit, though, to Wales who got the draw they fought so hard for.

Kenny Sansom had a great debut for England — what a player he's going to be. I've never seen a youngster with so much confidence. He's sound in defence and is always looking to break forward.

Clash

Many people would have liked Ken to have played against Scotland, but Mick Mills hasn't let us down and even the most hardened professional feels the pressure of an Auld Enemy clash.

I was very "tight" as I walked out of the tunnel into that sea of noise. The atmosphere really hit home as I was lining-up — only those present can truly appreciate the excitement generated by the supporters. Some of the Scotland fans leave a lot to be desired with the way they carry on, but you can't help but admire the way the Tartan Army get behind their country, especially against England. It's a strange feeling to be playing at home in front of more visiting fans!



"Kenny Sansom (white shirt) made a first-class debut for England against Wales."



"Steve Coppell salutes the goal that set us on the road to victory against Scotland at Wembley."

I started badly by trying to give a long pass to Peter Barnes, but the ball skidded off my foot and went out of play yards from anyone. The Scotland fans greeted this with loud whistling — mind you, I can assure you my own players gave me some "stick", too!

I decided to play it easier afterwards, especially as the surface was so slippery.

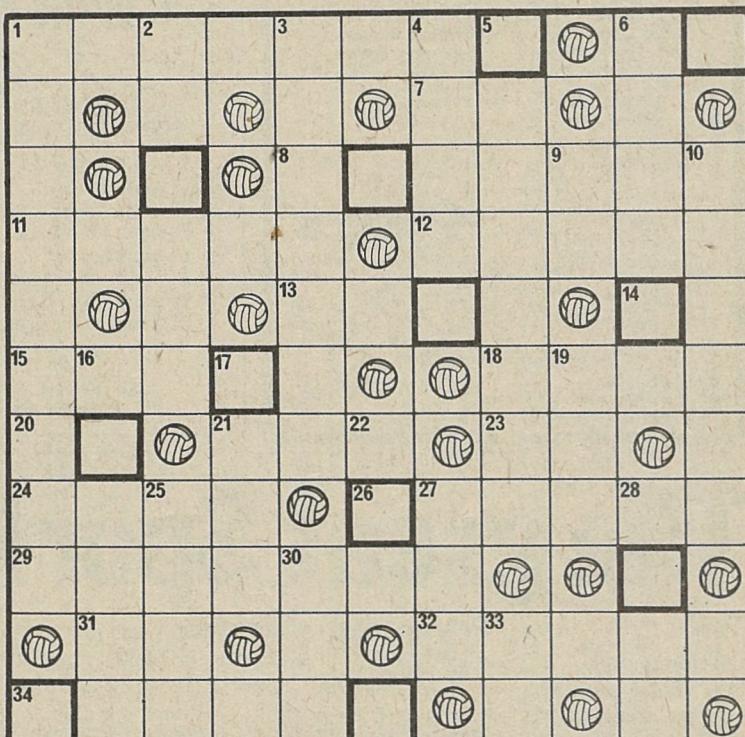
Scotland deservedly took the lead through John Wark. They were all over us and had Ray Clemence not made that marvellous reflex save from Dave Watson's deflection, Scotland would have led 2-0 and may have buried us. Little did we know then that goalkeepers were to play a vital part in the match.

I was behind Peter Barnes when he scored that soft equaliser. He went to volley the ball and two defenders turned their backs — Peter controlled the ball and tried a shot . . . and what a relief when it trickled over the line. At that moment, I was confident we'd go on and win the game.

I don't want to remind George Wood of our second goal, but the big feller had admitted he should have held my shot. Mick Mills gave me a good early ball — Asa Hartford came out to challenge and I went inside him. My dad told me after the

Go for the Double

After solving the clues in this specially compiled crossword, you can use the letters in the thick-edged squares to form the name of a Bolton Wanderers striker. Answers on page 38.



ACROSS:

- (1) Surname of Liverpool striker.
 - (6) Gary O--n new West Bromwich Albion star.
 - (7) Geoff --lmer of Wolves.
 - (8) — Lane, ground of Sheffield United.
 - (11) Bend.
 - (12) Stanley Matthews was the first soccer player to be awarded one.
 - (13) Stagger or sway.
 - (14) Ray B--hop of Cardiff City.
 - (15) -om-r-o--ark (Newport County). Exhausted from the missing letters.
 - (18) Neckwear or drawn games.
 - (20) Joe Bol--n of Sunderland.
 - (21) F---noord from Holland.
 - (23) Richard M--ey of Fulham.
 - (24) Trees . . . as associated with Reading's ground.
 - (26) Style or method.
 - (29) Indulging in unrestrained revelry.
 - (31) --merset Park, Ayr United.
 - (32) Geoff —, England international who was a member of the 1966 World Cup winning side.
 - (34) Wave of feeling or excitement.
- (1) — Rovers, Division Four club from Belle Vue Ground.
 - (2) — McMenemy, Southampton manager.
 - (3) A-s-na-S-ad-um, High-ur-. Freedom from the omissions in this address.
 - (4) --lhurs--rk (Crystal Palace). Outpour from the missing letters.
 - (5) — Academicals from Douglas Park ground.
 - (6) — Pettigrew, striker with Motherwell.
 - (9) Steve G--ting, of Arsenal.
 - (10) Not so great as the other or rest.
 - (16) Smoothness and elegance.
 - (17) --wca--le from St. James Park.
 - (19) Tom F---ey, Footballer of the Year in 1953-54 and 1956-57.
 - (22) Arnold --hr-n (Ipswich). Bird from the omissions.
 - (25) Turf —, home of Burnley.
 - (27) Ron ---man recorded 662 matches with Norwich City.
 - (28) Not hard or difficult.
 - (30) Singular form of Sheffield Wednesday nickname.
 - (33) Martyn B---by, surname of Queens Park Rangers player.

- AGAIN'



game I should have gone on and taken the ball nearer their goal before shooting. As it was, I tried a pot-shot which was well-struck and the ball was slippery . . . but George still should have held it. He didn't and Steve Coppell scored another tap-in goal against Scotland. He did it last year at Hampden Park, of course.

Kevin Keegan's third goal was a bit special. I don't think Trevor Brooking has been given sufficient credit for his inch-perfect pass back to Kevin; few players could have done so well instinctively. Yes, a wonderful goal.

After that, we used our experience to tie the game up and in the end ran out worthy winners.

That victory put us in the right frame of mind to travel to Bulgaria, Sweden and Austria . . . and I'll be talking about these tour games in my next column.

Join me again in a fortnight.

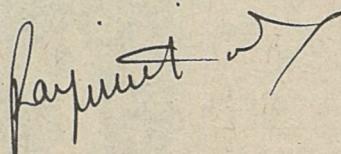


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EUROPEAN CUP FINAL

FOREST'S FANS: 10
THE PLAYERS: 1 (FRANCIS)

NOTTINGHAM Forest's triumph in the 1979 European Cup Final is, sadly, doomed to enter the history books as one of football's most boring, disappointing and utterly anti-climatic events.

But the beautiful and historic Bavarian capital that is Munich is still talking about the triumph of the Nottingham public over the tardy reputation of British supporters abroad.

With haunting memories of Leeds United in France, Spurs in Holland, Rangers in Spain and Manchester United in France, conjuring vivid pictures of impending carnage in the minds of the German hosts, Forest's near-20,000 fans entered the city knowing that their every move would be closely monitored.

With the rare exception of those who found the local brew somewhat stronger than those Sherwood Forest ales to which they are accustomed, the English fans were a credit to their country.

As German suspicions gradually melted, Forest's followers took over the City. But it was a blood-

less, good-humoured coup that involved singing, dancing and drinking the "Bier Kellars" dry.

It was noticeable that the percentage of local blond beauties in public evidence increased as the day of the Final approached. And Munich's renowned police force shyly tucked their riot wagons and under-fed alsatians up side streets, wondering if they dare abandon weapons and join in the fun.

Perhaps the whole atmosphere was summed up by the sight of some three hundred Forest fans wandering musically through the City centre wearing a mixture of red and white and blue and white hats and scarves.

Anyone familiar with the record and reputation of British fans abroad during the past decade would have been forgiven for launching an immediate search of the suburbs for unconscious, battered Malmo supporters. But the distinctive Scandinavian voices attempting to render "There's only one Garry Birtles" told the story. The respective fans demolished the belief that only trouble can

result from large groups of rivals meeting head-on in a neutral land.

We shall never know if the poker-faced Munich policeman, spotted wrapping a silk Forest scarf around his Luger-holster during the after-match celebrations, was fined by his superiors for overdoing the friendly relations exercise. But you could sense the relief throughout the city as it became evident that, before and after the Final, these English visitors wanted fun, not trouble.

So the next time Brian Clough deems it necessary to bleat in public about local apathy and low gates at the City Ground, he should consider the tremendous

public-relations job done for him, his club and England by the thousands of locals who spent large quantities of their hard-earned money to reach Bavaria.

And it is necessary to put the 1979 European Cup Final into perspective by establishing that the fans, not the players, made this an occasion to remember. They provided the entertainment, stamped the name of their club across West Germany and generally turned in the only worthwhile performance.

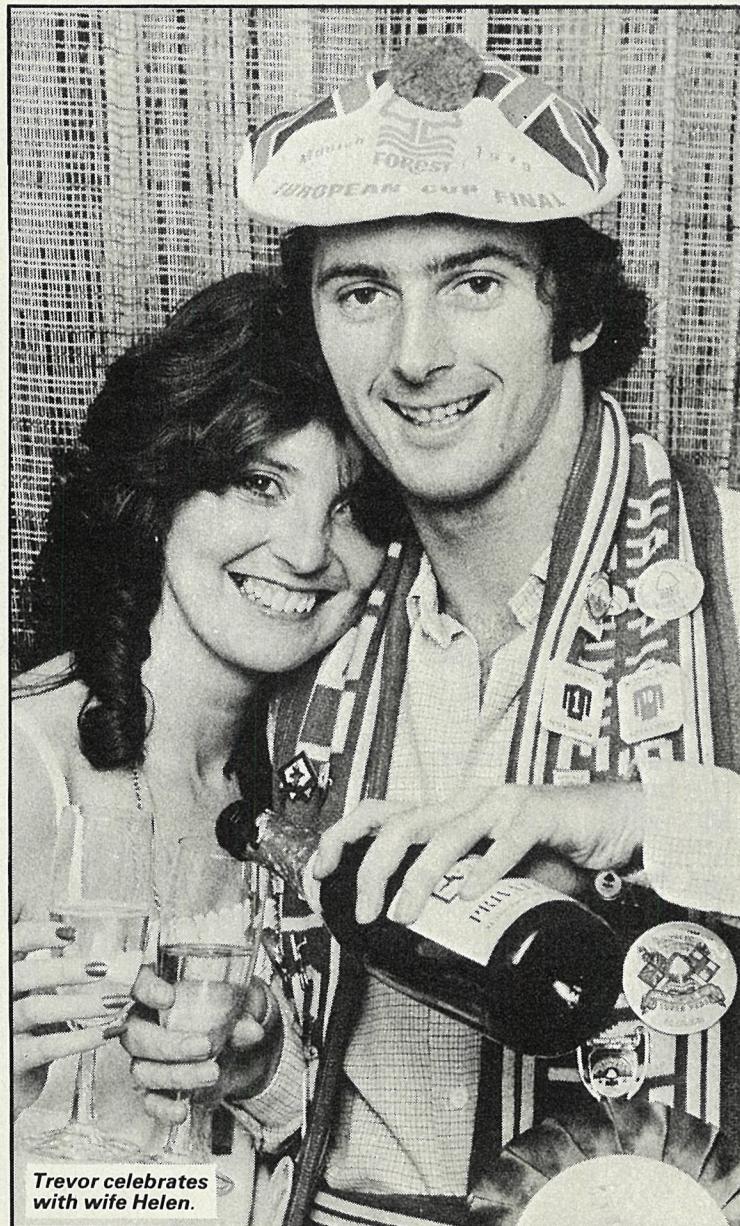
For the record books, Nottingham Forest beat Malmo 1-0 with a headed goal scored by Trevor Francis moments before half-time.



Forest fans in Munich.



Trevor Francis stoops to head the only goal of the game.



Trevor celebrates with wife Helen.

CLOUGH'S EURO CHAMPS!

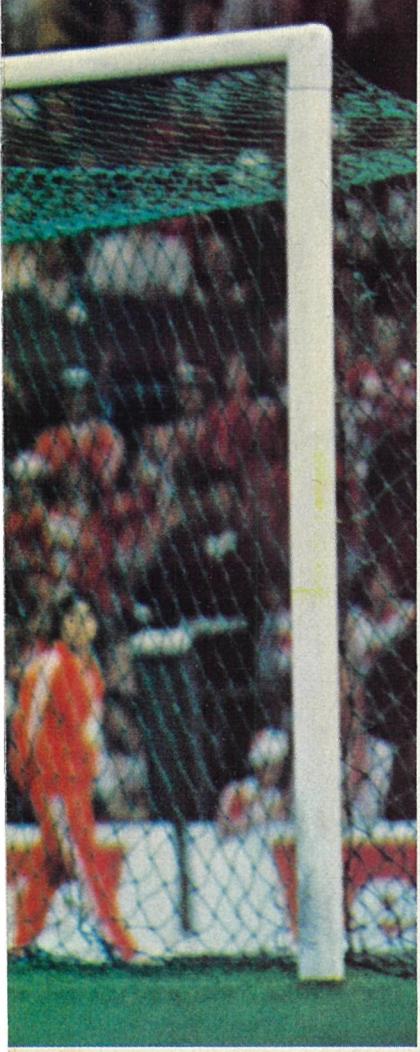
Golden Boy Trevor Francis heads the winner to clinch silver for Forest.



The greatest moment in Nottingham Forest's 114 year history is frozen for posterity by SHOOT's photographers. The only goal of the European Cup Final, scored just before half-time by Trevor Francis; action from the big match in Munich; and a jubilant Forest after the final whistle. Not the most exciting Final in European Cup history, but as Forest's fans will tell you, it's the result that matters. History in the making . . .

It takes two defenders to try to quell Tony Woodcock's pace.





John Robertson salutes
Forest's victory after laying
on the winner for Francis.



my soccer scene
GORDON HILL

'I WON'T BE REJOINING THE DOC AGAIN'

SINCE Tommy Docherty's sensational departure from Derby County to Q.P.R. on eve of the F.A. Cup Final, my own future has again been freely discussed in the national Press, among Baseball Ground fans, and judging by your letters, by hundreds of SHOOT readers.

The day after The Doc signed for the newly-relegated Londoners, it was widely reported I would be joining him, along with team-mate Steve Wicks, a £275,000 buy from Chelsea in January.

Obviously I can't speak for Wicksie, but I can state here and now that there is no way I'm going to Q.P.R.

Such a move hasn't entered my

head. Tommy Docherty hasn't approached me, nor as far as I know, Derby County.

Even if he did I will not be making it a hat-trick of signings for The Doc.

Going to a Second Division club would be a backward step at this stage of my career. I desperately want to regain my England status and a move to a club newly relegated could jeopardise that ambition.

Besides, I haven't achieved anything at the Baseball Ground yet. Because of my knee injury and operation I've only played around a dozen matches for The Rams. I'm almost a stranger to the club's fans.

I owe it to them and the club's directors to help put the club back

where it belongs . . . among the top in the country.

I like the atmosphere at Derby and get along with all the lads. My new house in Ashbourne, just a few miles outside the town, is almost complete. The decorators and landscape gardeners are about to move in. Does that sound as though I'm unsettled because The Doc has left?

Mind you that's not to say I'll never leave Derby. If, for instance, Arsenal or Spurs made a bid I'd be a fool not to consider it. No player in his right mind would reject that sort of offer out of hand.

Naturally I was disappointed The Doc quit Derby because the team he built could well be on the verge of becoming a good one.

The present squad is certainly as strong as many in the First Division.

After all the problems at the Baseball Ground during the past season, it was perhaps no real sur-

Tommy Docherty meets the Press shortly after his move to Q.P.R.



prise to many people that The Doc decided his future was elsewhere. But the suddenness of the move was a shock.

I suppose there was a hint something was wrong when he and assistant manager Frank Blunstone failed to appear at the airport when the team left for a week's holiday in Majorca.

Physiotherapist Gordon Guthrie and reserve team coach Richard Norman took charge of the party in their absence, but if they knew anything neither revealed it to us.

Only ten players made the trip in the end.

Gerry Daly and Steve Powell are



STEVE WICKS



in the States, Billy Caskey was involved with the Northern Ireland team and Dave Langan was with Eire.

Poor Vic Moreland arrived at the airport to leave with the lads but received news one of his relatives had died suddenly.

Vic took the news badly and disappeared to be with his family.

So I suppose it wasn't surprising the flight out was rather subdued. No one seemed in the mood for a party.

Fortunately, that feeling vanished when we checked in at the magnificent Coral Playa Hotel in Magaluf.

The next morning I heard The Doc had gone.

I was walking along the beach with some of the lads when a couple of newly-arrived holiday-makers told us the news.

Ironically, it was in similar circumstances I received the bombshell Tommy had left Manchester United.

That time I was walking along a beach in Ibiza when a young English lad ran up waving a copy of the Daily Telegraph revealing the whole story.

I had a suspicion Tommy would be on the move then, and that I would eventually follow him to his new club. Not this time, though.

Despite that sensation, we had a good break in Majorca.

I relaxed on the beach, swam a little and learned to water ski.

Then as the players packed to return home came news of yet another Derby controversy.

Secretary Stuart Webb had to leave early to meet detectives at the Baseball Ground.

The players were naturally con-

cerned with this adverse publicity following so soon after The Doc had left.

They asked me to make it clear through my SHOOT column that this is not our problem and we can make no comment at all on the allegations.

Nor can we comment on the appointment of a new manager.

As I write Stoke City boss Alan Durban seems the most likely candidate.

Now . . . my plans for the rest of the close-season.

I was going off for a holiday in Malta but have decided to cancel it and concentrate on my new house and getting super fit for next term.

My knee is looking and feeling good. I've been pushing myself hard training every day since I got back from Majorca.

I'm doing quite a lot of cross-country running on heavy grounds to help strengthen muscles. I also take a ball to our local park to practice my skills.

Normally there's no shortage of lads willing to help put me through my paces.

I'll also be coming South at regular intervals to visit my family and friends and play some tennis.

Then there's a stack of your letters waiting to be answered. I'll get through some of those in two weeks time. Join me then . . .

[Handwritten signature]

ONLY TWO MANAGERS SURVIVE THE TEN YEAR TEST



BOBBY ROBSON



ALAN DICKS

No fewer than 43 of the Football League's 92 clubs have made managerial changes in the past two years — and several of them have done so more than once!

There has never been chopping and changing like it in the game's history. Yet amid all this managerial-not-so-merry-go-round, Bristol City's Alan Dicks and Ipswich Town's Bobby Robson have survived to become the only bosses who have been with their current clubs for as long as ten years.

The lower the Division the more quickly the managers come and go, as is revealed in the accompanying surveys. Nobody has been with his present club for even eight years in either the Third or Fourth, and 16 of the Fourth's 24 clubs have changed their chiefs in the last 12 months alone!

First Division	managers	Appointed	Second Division	managers	Appointed
Bristol City	Alan Dicks	Oct. 1967	Oldham Athletic	Jimmy Frizzell	Mar. 1970
Ipswich Town	Bobby Robson	Jan. 1969	Charlton Athletic	Andy Nelson	May, 1974
Coventry City	Gordon Milne	June, 1972	West Ham United	John Lyall	Aug. 1974
Southampton	Lawrie McMenemy	June, 1973	Fulham	Bobby Campbell	Dec. 1976
Norwich City	John Bond	Nov. 1973	Burnley	Harry Potts	Feb. 1977
Manchester City	Tony Book	Apr. 1974	Wrexham	Arfon Griffiths	May, 1977
Aston Villa	Ron Saunders	June, 1974	Watford	Graham Taylor	June, 1977
Liverpool	Bob Paisley	July, 1974	Preston N.E.	Nobby Stiles	July, 1977
Bolton Wanderers	Ian Greaves	Oct. 1974	Orient	Jimmy Bloomfield	Sept. 1977
Nottingham Forest	Brian Clough	Jan. 1975	Notts County	Jimmy Sirrel	Oct. 1977
Crystal Palace	Terry Venables	June, 1976	Newcastle United	Bill McGarry	Nov. 1977
Arsenal	Terry Neill	July, 1976	Bristol Rovers	Bobby Campbell	Jan. 1978
Tottenham Hotspur	Keith Burkinshaw	July, 1976	Cambridge United	John Docherty	Jan. 1978
Brighton	Alan Mullery	July, 1976	Luton Town	David Pleat	Jan. 1978
Everton	Gordon Lee	Jan. 1977	Swansea City	John Toshack	Feb. 1978
Middlesbrough	John Neal	May, 1977	Birmingham City	Jim Smith	Mar. 1978
Manchester United	Dave Sexton	July, 1977	Leicester City	Jock Wallace	June, 1978
West Bromwich A.	Ron Atkinson	Jan. 1978	Cardiff City	Richie Morgan	Dec. 1978
Stoke City	Alan Durban	Feb. 1978	Chelsea	Danny Blanchflower	Dec. 1978
Leeds United	Jimmy Adamson	Oct. 1978	Shrewsbury Town	Graham Turner	Dec. 1978
Wolves	John Barnwell	Nov. 1978	Queens P.R.	Tommy Docherty	May, 1979
Derby County			Sunderland		

Third Division	managers	Appointed	Fourth Division	managers	Appointed
Rotherham United	Jimmy McGuigan	May, 1973	Aldershot	Tom McAnearney	May, 1972
Colchester United	Bobby Roberts	June, 1975	Tranmere Rovers	John King	May, 1975
Gillingham	Gerry Summers	Oct. 1975	Scunthorpe United	Ron Ashman	Jan. 1976
Oxford United	Mick Brown	Oct. 1975	Wigan Athletic	Ian McNeil	May, 1968
Southend United	David Smith	May, 1976	Hartlepool	Billy Horner	Jan. 1976, May, 1976 (second term)
Brentford	Bill Dodgin	Sept. 1976	Torquay United	Mike Green	Mar. 1977
Chester	Alan Oakes	Sept. 1976	York City	Charlie Wright	Nov. 1977
Chesterfield	Arthur Cox	Oct. 1976	Stockport County	Mike Summerbee	Mar. 1978
Carlisle United	Bobby Moncur	Nov. 1976	Port Vale	Dennis Butler	May, 1978
Grimsby Town	John Newman	Dec. 1976	Newport County	Len Ashurst	June, 1978
Reading	Maurice Evans	May, 1977	Hereford United	Mike Bailey	June, 1978
Sheffield Wednesday	Jack Charlton	Oct. 1977	Huddersfield Town	Mick Buxton	Oct. 1978
Millwall	George Petchey	Jan. 1978	Doncaster Rovers	Billy Bremner	Nov. 1978
Sheffield Wed.	Harry Haslam	Jan. 1978	Halifax Town	George Kirby	Nov. 1978
Wimbledon	Dario Gradi	Jan. 1978	Bradford City	George Muhall	Nov. 1978
Mansfield Town	Billy Bingham	Feb. 1978	Lincoln City	Colin Murphy	Nov. 1978
Hull City	Ken Houghton	Apr. 1978	Crewe Alexandra	Warwick Rimmer	Dec. 1978
Blackpool	Bob Stokoe	May, 1978	Darlington	Len Walker	Dec. 1978
Bury	Dave Hatton	May, 1978	Bournemouth	Alec Stock	Jan. 1979
Barnsley	Allan Clarke	May, 1978	Rochdale	Doug Collins	Jan. 1979
Swindon Town	Bobby Smith	May, 1978	Peterborough United	Peter Morris	Feb. 1979
Exeter City	Brian Godfrey	May, 1978	Northampton	Clive Walker	May, 1979
Plymouth Argyle	Bobby Saxon	Jan. 1979	Portsmouth	Frank Burrows	May, 1979
Blackburn Rovers		Jan. 1979	Walsall		

PART FIVE

Our week-by-week account of the

Week ending DECEMBER 9

LIVERPOOL END FOREST RUN

WITH the League programme rapidly approaching the half-way mark, Liverpool still hold the stage.

And emphasise it by beating Forest 2-0 at Anfield to end the remarkable unbeaten run of the Clough-men.

Incredibly, Forest's last League defeat was more than a year ago — at Leeds on 19th November, 1977 — and they had since gone 42 without losing.

The foreign imports — especially Ardiles and Muhren — still continue to dazzle us with their skills on the field.

Ossie and his pal Ricardo Villa, safely installed by Spurs in their new houses, are photographed shivering in their coats while they try to find an interpreter to explain just how to get their central-heating going!

For winter — such as they hadn't known, and even hardened Britons had almost forgotten in a succession of fairly mild seasons — arrives with a vengeance.

The week also sees an extraordinary daily serial at Derby which runs like a script from "Crossroads".

First, the club put Charlie George on offer — without any hint of restrictions — at a fee of £400,000.

Next day, both Southampton and West Bromwich agree to it — and Charlie is given the option of choosing.

Day after, Forest are also given permission to speak to the player.

Day after that, Charlie opts for Forest — but Derby say "No" to their Midlands neighbours.

Following day, Derby say "No" to West Brom as well.

There's a bit of a blow to Liverpool pride when they go down 3-1 to Anderlecht in Belgium in the first-leg of the European "Super Cup". For once, the

red flag doesn't fly too merrily — but, even Liverpool must expect a rare off-day sometimes.

It's 2-1 to England in the U.E.F.A. Cup. Held to a home draw by Red Star Belgrade, Arsenal go out — but West Brom axe Valencia.

And Manchester City — shaky enough in the League; they suffer yet another home defeat three days later — brilliantly crack the tough AC Milan defence 3-0 to cruise through on a 5-2 aggregate.

The weekend weather eases up — and there's a full Saturday programme. Chelsea lose their fifth successive game, and fellow-strugglers Birmingham have Trevor Francis's return blighted by a home defeat from Everton.

Lees' lads cling on near the top, and the bookies make them second-favourites for the League title at 5-to-2 against. But they make neighbours Liverpool 6-to-4 ON!

★ SATURDAY SUMMARY ★

HIGHEST SCORE: 4 — Wrexham; Hereford.

TOTAL GOALS: 103 (average 2.29 per game).

HAT TRICKS: 1 — Lyons (Wrexham v. West Ham).

TABLE-TOPPERS: Div 1, Liverpool; Div 2, Palace; Div 3, Watford; Div 4, Wimbledon.

HIGHEST GATE: 51,469 (Liverpool v. Forest).

TOTAL GATE: 484,178.

AVERAGE GATE: 10,760.

HEART-BREAKING SAINTS

RANGERS hoping to climb nearer Dundee United in the League table are rapped by the free-flowing Tannadice side. Ignoring the fact they hadn't beaten Rangers since April, 1969 and had never scored a goal at Tannadice in the Premier Division against the Ibrox outfit, United win 3-0.

In an all-action battle at Parkhead the top crowd of the day see Celtic draw 0-0 with Aberdeen. Although goals are missing there is plenty of fine football.

Motherwell score after 15 seconds at Easter Road against Hibs. Pettigrew is the scorer and he has to score again, in the 84th minute before 'Well can share the points in a 2-2 draw.

St Mirren pull off the biggest win of the day and a real "heart-breaker".

Two goals from Torrance, one in each half, and two more from Stark and Hyslop send Hearts back to Edinburgh dejected.

Partick Thistle beat Morton 2-1.

The Clydebank v. St Johnstone match is abandoned early in the second-half when the lights fail. Saints are winning 2-0.

★ SATURDAY SUMMARY ★

HIGHEST GATE: Celtic v. Aberdeen; 25,000.

PREM DIV TOTAL ATT: 56,500.

TOTAL GOALS (3 Divs): 61.

TABLE TOPPERS: Dundee United.

HIGHEST SCORE: 4 — St Mirren, Forfar.



Billy Stark (left) scored one of St. Mirren's goals against Hearts. Liverpool's Kenny Dalglish (above right) helped his side end Nottingham Forest's unbeaten run.

Week ending DECEMBER 16

SHELLITO LEAVES CHELSEA

CHELSEA are in the doldrums — and now there's no hope of relief from crack Yugoslav coach Miljan Miljanic.

After his brief visit, and watching a few games, he's back across the Channel — but the writing still seems on the wall for Ken Shellito.

Ironic are the ways of the transfer mart. Spurs — having astonishingly let Pat Jennings, still one of the world's top keepers, go down the road to Arsenal for a giveaway £40,000 a season back — now have to pay out £100,000 for Luton's Milić Aleksić.

Shellito resigns, and Chelsea are quick off the mark in appointing a successor. The identity, though, is a shock — a man without experience of club management, but who's worked near-miracles with Northern Ireland, Danny Blanchflower.

Chelsea may secretly pray for instant miracles, but shrewd Danny refuses to promise any. Initially, Blanchflower only agrees to keep at it till the season's finish — but a bit of arm-twisting then will surely see Spurs' old "Double" skipper staying put.

We're on the way to sorting out the last four in the League Cup — and Leeds, Forest, and Southampton all make it.

But high-flying Watford are still in there fighting. They earn a well-deserved draw at Stoke, and must be favourites to make the Semi-Finals.

With the Second Division also well in sight, chairman Elton John has every right to sing the praises of his lively, and now not-so-little, club.

The "cheek", too, for Third Divisioners — now they're bidding a cool £200,000 for Leicester defender Steve Sims!

Saturday comes — and Danny Blanchflower takes his Chelsea side up to Middlesbrough. No happy return home, though —

the very blue Blues, 5-1 down at half-time, end up with a 7-2 deficit . . . four of the goals coming from Mick Burns.

Desperate Dan? Not a bit of it — the whimsical Irishman can still crack a bit of the old Blarney, and express his faith in the long-term. A nice guy like that deserves to make it, and probably will.

Shock for Liverpool as they go down to a single Joe Royle goal at Bristol City. Fortunately for them, second-placed Everton drop a home point to Leeds. Forest, too, are also surprisingly pressed to beat struggling Birmingham at home by one late Archie Gemmill goal.

Two of the game's brightest young managers are still going great guns in the Second Division. Terry Venables' Palace have a two-point lead at the top, with Alan Mulbery's Brighton snapping at their heels.

In the F.A. Cup, it's not the best of days for non-Leaguers hoping to get into the draw with the "big boys" in the New Year. Only Maidstone (who put out Exeter) and Altrincham are definitely through, but three others earn a replay.

★ SATURDAY SUMMARY ★

HIGHEST SCORE: 7 — Middlesbrough.

TOTAL GOALS: 119 (average 2.64).

HAT-TRICKS: 1 — Burns (4) (Middlesbrough v. Chelsea).

TABLE-TOPPERS: Div 1, Liverpool; Div 2, Palace; Div 3, Watford; Div 4, Wimbledon.

HIGHEST GATE: 52,026 (Man. Utd. v. Spurs).

TOTAL GATE: 571,143.

AVERAGE GATE: 12,692.

MacLEOD MOVES IN AT MOTHERWELL

ALLY MacLeod, in a deal reckoned to be worth between £15,000 and £20,000, gets back into the big time when he quits Ayr United after two months and moves into Motherwell's managerial hot seat.

He takes over from Roger Hynd, sacked six weeks ago, and has the task of keeping Well, six points adrift at the bottom of the table, in the Premier Division.

Ally, in his first game, on the Saturday sees his side draw 1-1 with Morton.

Dundee United boss Jim McLean raps his team for not taking more than one point off Celtic in their 1-1 draw at Parkhead. He says they were "pathetic".

Celtic's manager Billy McNeill is also disappointed in his team. He says a draw was all his side deserved. Perhaps The Celts are feeling the effects of the mid-week 3-2 League Cup Semi-Final defeat by Rangers. The game went into extra-time. Rangers, too, are perhaps a little jaded

after the marathon match. The defence are. Although they manage to score five on the Saturday, Hearts put three into the Rangers' net. Rangers' Derek Johnstone scored four times for the Ibrox outfit.

Aberdeen are at home to St Mirren and in spite of some attractive football from both sides, only two goals are scored. Both teams finding each other's net once.

In a dour match at Easter Road, played in leg-sapping conditions, Hibs and Thistle share the spoils with a no-scoring draw..

★ SATURDAY SUMMARY ★

HIGHEST GATE: 21,000 Rangers v. Hearts.

PREM. DIV. TOTAL ATT.: 57,000.

TOTAL GOALS (3 Divs): 51.

CUP GOALS (First Round): 19.

TABLE-TOPPERS: Dundee United.

HIGHEST SCORE: 5 — Rangers, Ayr United.



Ally MacLeod takes over at Motherwell from Roger Hynd (left). Former Chelsea player Ken Shellito (above) resigned as boss at Stamford Bridge.

1978-79 season in England and Scotland

Week ending DECEMBER 23

REVIE RECEIVES A TEN-YEAR BAN

FATHER Christmas is coming — and so is Don Revie. The ex-England boss, who dramatically upped and pitched his tent in the desert a year and a half ago, returns to England to face a Football Association "court".

After a five-hour hearing into charges that he had brought the game into disrepute, The Don receives a ten-year ban which effectively condemns him to a working-life of exile from English soccer.

At the same hearing, a former England skipper Alan Ball gets a £3,000 fine after pleading guilty to receiving illegal payment from the then Leeds manager who wanted to sign him from Blackpool in 1966.

After a lot of headlines, and huffing and puffing all round, Charlie George finally moves from Derby — and it's Southampton who get their man. But it's a £400,000 that manager Lawrie McMenemy reckons worth all the money and muddle to make him Saint George.

Remember Peter Marinello — the "second George Best", they said at the time — who made big news nearly a decade ago when he came South from Hibernian to Arsenal, never lived up to his promise, and via Portsmouth eventually found his way back to his homeland?

In Marinello, Fulham figure they see just the extra strike they need — and bring him down again from Motherwell. Now, though, it's only a "peanuts fee" of £30,000 — well below the £200,000 paid to Leicester for defender Steve Sims by Watford.

A new record fee paid by a Third Division club. Liverpool can only beat Anderlecht

2-1 at Anfield — so the Belgians take the "Super Cup" on a 4-3 aggregate.

John Toshack's Swans are flying high in the Third Division — but, F.A. Cup-wise, Woking give them a bit of a headache. After cheeky drawing at Swansea, the gallant non-Leaguers get three more goals in the replay — but, happily for "Tosh", his own lads get a winning five.

And it's a right bunch-of-fives for Spurs in their North London derby at White Hart Lane. Alan Sunderland gets a hat-trick — Arsenal's first against Tottenham since 1934.

Liam Brady really steals the show for the deserved winners.

Everton go down at Coventry, and Liverpool's game is "weathered" off — so there's no change at the top.

As-you-were in the other Divisions, too — but, as usual, you can't keep the name of Docherty out of the news.

This time it's not Tommy, but his son Mick — sent off after conceding the penalty which allows Notts County to take a vital point off promotion hopefuls Sunderland.

★ SATURDAY SUMMARY ★

HIGHEST SCORE: 5 — Arsenal.
TOTAL GOALS: 68 (average 2.51 per game).

HAT-TRICKS: 2 — Sunderland (Arsenal at Spurs); Cumming (Grimsby v. York).

TABLE-TOPPERS: Div 1, Liverpool; Div 2, Palace; Div 3, Watford; Div 4, Wimbledon.

HIGHEST GATE: 42,273 (Spurs v. Arsenal).

TOTAL GATE: 324,795.

AVERAGE GATE: 12,029.

'PRESENT' FOR TABLE TOPPERS

DUNDEE UNITED beat Hibs 2-1, thanks to an own goal Christmas present. Hibs' McNamara heads the ball into his own net. The two points keep United at the top of the table.

It is a story of missed chances at Tynecastle Park as Hearts and Aberdeen draw 0-0.

An American keeper defies Celtic at Cappielow. Dave Brasic in the Morton goal is just one of the heroes as his side grab a winner, two minutes from time, from the penalty-spot. Ritchie is the Morton scorer.

Derek Johnstone once again scores the all-important goal for Rangers when they meet St Mirren at Ibrox. It is his tenth of the season, and is enough to beat Saints.

Sommer opens the scoring for Thistle in their away match with Motherwell.

But a penalty slotted home by Millar gives 'Well a share of the points.

'Well's new boss Ally MacLeod starts his expected switches at Fir Park. He signs midfield player Joe Smith from Aberdeen and plays him in the team against Thistle and at the same time he transfers Peter Marinello to Fulham for £30,000.

★ SATURDAY SUMMARY ★

HIGHEST GATE: 21,000 Rangers v St Mirren.

PREM DIV TOTAL ATT: 58,000.

TOTAL GOALS: 38 (3 games cancelled)

TABLE-TOPPERS: Dundee United.

HIGHEST SCORE: 5 — St Johnstone.



Don Revie (above) is banned for ten years. Hibs' Jackie McNamara (right) heads into his own net to give Dundee United a 2-1 victory.



Week ending DECEMBER 30

BOXING DAY BATTERING

IT'S not exactly a happy Christmas for Manchester United — and a vociferous section of the Old Trafford fans, geared to nothing less than success, are already baying for manager Dave Sexton's head.

A 3-0 defeat at Bolton is followed by a home one, with a similar score, from Liverpool . . . and then a 5-3 home battering by up-and-coming West Bromwich.

And it's West Brom — a refreshingly "old-fashioned" side who believe in attack — who dent Arsenal's euphoria at that 5-0 win at Tottenham by taking the honours 2-1 a few days later at Highbury.

The weather turns out surprisingly reasonable, and there are quite a few goals knocking around on Boxing Day. A Joe Royle hat-trick spurs Bristol City to a 5-0 whitewash of Coventry, while breezy Brighton chalk-up a similar score, against Cardiff, with a threesome from Maybank.

And happier still for Brighton, their main promotion rivals, Palace, suffer a rare home slip-up against Bristol Rovers.

Fulham (with a Guthrie hat-trick) also hit five against Cambridge; while the Bank Holiday's top scorers are Barnsley, who whack Port Vale 6-2 — with a splendid three-goal blast from their young player-manager.

His name's Allan Clarke . . . which, striker-wise, just seems to ring a bell somewhere!

More than 20,000 watch the 2-2 Third Division top-of-the-table clash between Watford and Shrewsbury — Ross Jenkins' couple taking his tally for the season to 26.

Glenn Hoddle, one of our brightest prospects, indicates he'd like a move from Spurs after being dropped from the Q.P.R. game. Manager Burkinshaw is unimpressed, and — not unreasonably — suggests Hoddle's best bet is to fight his way back into the side with the talent he undoubtedly possesses.

Paul Randall — the Bristol Rovers scor-

ing sensation who was still playing part-time, non-League while working in a supermarket 18 months ago — joins Stoke for £175,000.

There's not much big-time experience behind him, but 35 goals in 54 games for Rovers speaks for itself — and, even at that price, Stoke have probably got themselves a real bargain to boost their promotion bid.

The weather, threatening so long, begins to bite harder on the last Saturday of the year with 16 English (plus most of Scottish) games off.

Again Ardiles stars as Tottenham come home with a point from Everton, but it's another import — Dutchman Arnold Muhren — who takes the day's "foreign" honours. He scores twice, and lays on a couple more, as Ipswich blast luckless Chelsea 5-1.

And there's need to keep an eye on revitalised Leeds. Slowly but surely creeping up the table, they add another couple of points to their tally with a crushing 4-1 win at Q.P.R.

But, drawing with Orient, Second Division leaders Palace drop their third point in successive home games — leaving Stoke level on points, and Brighton only one in arrears. Could turn out to be one of the tightest promotion races in years.

★ SATURDAY SUMMARY ★

HIGHEST SCORE: 5 — West Bromwich; Ipswich.

TOTAL GOALS: 81 (average 2.79 per game).

HAT-TRICKS: None.

TABLE-TOPPERS: Div 1, Liverpool; Div 2, Palace; Div 3, Watford; Div 4, Wimbledon.

HIGHEST GATE: 45,091 (Man. Utd. v. West Bromwich).

TOTAL GATE: 418,139.

AVERAGE GATE: 14,419.

MORTON "MARAUDERS"

THE icy weather again bites deeply into the football fixtures and only three games get the go-ahead.

Aberdeen play Morton, in the Premier Division . . . in the First Division Hamilton meet St Johnstone and Queen of the South are hosts to Ayr United.

Even Murrayfield, home of Scottish rugby, is hit. The pitch's electric underground blanket can't cope with the heavy snows and the South v Glasgow Inter District Championship tie is postponed.

In the Premier Division game that is played, Morton knock Aberdeen's title hopes. Ritchie gives them the lead after 59 minutes and McNeill stretches it further in the 67th minute.

Aberdeen manage to pull one back but

the Morton "marauders" disappear South into the snow with the points.

In the other games played, Hamilton win 2-1, and Ayr score the one goal of the game. But football in Scotland ends the year the loser in the battle against the weather.

★ SATURDAY SUMMARY ★

HIGHEST GATE: 7,000 Aberdeen v St Mirren.

PREMIER DIV. TOTAL ATT: 7,000.

TOTAL GOALS: 7.

TABLE-TOPPERS: Dundee United.

HIGHEST SCORE: 2 — St Mirren, Hamilton.



RESULTS . . . SCORERS . . . TEAM LINE-UPS

SATURDAY, APRIL 21

THIRD DIVISION

(continued)

SHEFF. WED (1) 1 (Hornsby pen.)
TRANMERE (1) 2 (Evans, Kerr) 9,815

Sheff. W: Turner; Shirtliff, Grant, Pickering, Mullen, Johnson, Curran, Porterfield, Wyld, Nimmo (Lowey), Hornsby.

Tranmere: Johnson; Flood, Mathias, Parry, Postlewhite, Evans, O'Neill, Craven, Kerr, Thomas, McAuley.

SHREWSBURY (1) 1 (King)
CHESTERFIELD (0) 1 (Simpson pen.) 6,360

Shrewsbury: Mulhern; King, Larkin, Atkins, Griffin, Keay, Birch, Lindsay, Tong, Biggins, Maguire.

Chesterfield: Tingay; Flavell, Burton, O'Neill, Hunter, Prophett, Kowalski, Heppolette, Moss, Simpson, Walker.

SOUTHEND 0
PETERBOROUGH 0 3,461

Southend: Horn; Stead, Yates, Hull, Cusack, Moody, Morris, Pountney (Polycarpou), Parker, Dudley, Utulakowski.

Peterborough: Waugh; Hindley, Carmichael, Doyle, Smith, Ross, Gynn, Butlin, Guy, McEwan, Cliss.

SWINDON (1) 2 Jenkins o.g., Rowland)

WATFORD (0) 0 16,397

Swindon: Allan; Trollope, Ford, McHale, Carter, Stroud, Miller, Mayes, Rowland, Bates, Hamilton.

Watford: Rankin; Stirk, Pritchett, Booth, Bolton, Garner, Pollard (Sims), Blissett, Jenkins, Joslyn, Downes.

WALSALL (0) 0
OXFORD (1) 1 (Seacole) 3,396

Walsall: Turner; Macken (McDonough), Caswell, Serella, Sbragia, King, Birch, Williams, Syrett, Waddington, Rees.

Oxford: Milkins; McIntosh, Fogg, Briggs, Bodel, Jeffrey, Graydon, Taylor, Foley, Seacole, Duncan.

FOURTH DIVISION

ALDERSHOT (0) 1 (Dungworth pen.)
WIGAN (0) 0 5,466

Aldershot: Johnson; Scott, Howitt, Longhorn, Youlden, Joplings, Crosby, Brodie, Needham, Dungworth, McGregor.

Wigan: Brown; Curtis, Hinnigan, Gore, Ward, Davids, Smart (Crompton), Wright, Brownhill, Moore, Purdie.

BOURNEMOUTH (0) 1 (MacDougall)

BRADFORD C (0) 0 2,679

Bournemouth: Allen; Cunningham, Miller, Impey, Brown (R), Borthwick, Holder, MacDougall, Scott, Brown (K), Johnson.

Bradford C: Smith; Podd, Watson, Reaney, Barnes, Wood, Martinez (Middleton), Dolan, Gilliver, McNiven, Hutchins.

CREWE (0) 0
YORK (1) 1 (Stronach) 1,428

Crewe: Rafferty; Wilkinson, Dulson, Nicholls, Bowles, Bevan, Robertson, Cheetham, Nelson (Roberts), Coyne, Warnock.

York: Brown; Kay, Walsh, Pugh, Faulkner, Clements, Ford, Stronach, Loggie, McDonald, Staniforth.

DARLINGTON (0) 1 (Ferguson)

WIMBLEDON (0) 1 (Leslie) 1,674

Darlington: Burleigh; Nattress, Cochrane, Hedley, Craig, Stone, Lyons, Wann, Ferguson, Peachey (Seal), Walsh.

Wimbledon: Goddard; Perkins, Haverson, Briley, Bowgett, Cunningham (Bryant), Leslie, Gallows, Cork, Parsons.

GRIMSBY (1) 2 (Crombie, Lester)

BARNESLEY (0) 0 15,875

Grimbsy: Batch; Moore (D), Moore (K), Waters, Wiggin, Crombie, Brolly, Ford, Lester, Drinkell, Cumming.

Barnsley: Springett, Collins, Chambers, Pugh, Saunders, McCarthy, Little, Clarke (Riley), Graham, Bell, Millar.

HALIFAX (1) 2 (Geidmintis o.g., Johnson)

NORTHAMPTON (2) 2 (McCaffrey, Frogatt) 1,172

Halifax: Kilner, Dunleavy, Hutt, Smith, Burke, Trainer, Firth, Kennedy, Campbell, Johnson, Sidebottom (Nixon).

Northampton: Jayes, Geidmintis, Mead, Matthews, Robertson, Saunders, Farrington, Williams, Reilly, Frogatt, McCaffrey.

HARTLEPOOL 0
READING 0 2,499

Hartlepool: Watson; Smith, Gorry, Norton, Goldthorpe, Ayre, Linacre (Evans), Houchen, Lawrence, Harding, Hogan.

Reading: Death; Peters, White, Bowman, Hicks, Bennett, Alexander, Hetzke, Shipley, Sanchez, Lewis.

HEREFORD (1) 1 (White 2)

DONCASTER (0) 0 3,209

Hereford: Hughes; Emery, Thomas, Strong, Layton, Emery, White, Hendry (Holmes), McGrellis, Gould, Feeley.

Doncaster: Peacock; Lally, Snodin, Meagan, Cannell, Olney, Flanagan, Lewis (Pugh), French, Cox, Bentley.

PORTRUSH (1) 1 (Hand)

STOCKPORT (1) 1 (Lee) 8,177

Portsmouth: Mellor; Ellis, Viney, Barnard, Hand, Davey, Pullar, Lathan, Garwood (Denyer), Showers, Bryant.

Stockport: Lawson; Halford, Rutter, Edwards, Thorpe, Armstrong, Henson, Smith, Bradd, Summerbee, Lee.

PORT VALE (0) 1 (Wright)

NEWPORT (0) 1 (Tynan) 2,444

Port Vale: Dance; Beech, Griffiths, Delgado, Healy, Hawkins, Chamberlain (N), Farrell, Wright, Todd, Chamberland (M).

Newport: Plumley; Walden, Davies, Thompson, Oakes, Bruton, Vaughan, Lowndes, Goddard, Tynan, Moore.

ROCHDALE (1) 1 (Taylor)

SCUNTHORPE (0) 0 1,224

Rochdale: Felgate; Snookes, Taylor, O'Loughlin, Creamer, Bannon, Hoy, Owen, Hilditch, Collins, Esser.

Scunthorpe: Crawford; Davy, Peacock, Oates, Deere, Hall, Grimes, Kilmore, Karl, Kavanagh, Gibson (Couch).

TORQUAY (0) 2 (Lawrence, Cooper)

HUDDERSFIELD (0) 1 (Holmes) 2,478

Torquay: Turner; Twitchin, Ritchie (Coffill), Green, Payne, Dunne, Davies, Wilson, Cooper, Murphy, Lawrence.

Huddersfield: Starling; Brown, Sandercock, Holmes, Sutton, Hanvey, Fletcher, Hart, Armstrong, Robins, Bielby.

SCOTTISH PREMIER

ABERDEEN (1) 1 (Strachan)

CELTIC (1) 1 (Lynch pen.) 18,400

Aberdeen: Clark, Kennedy, Hamilton, McLeish, Garner, Miller, McGhee, Archibald, Sullivan, Strachan, Scanlon.

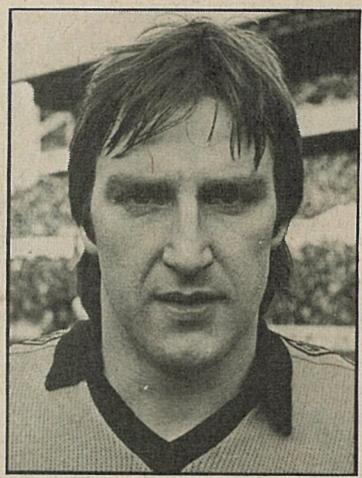
Celtic: Latchford; McGrain, Lynch, Aitken, Edvaldsson, MacLeod, Provan, Conroy, Davidson (Doyle), Burns, McCluskey (McAdam).

DUNDEE UTD (0) 1 (Stewart pen.)

RANGERS (2) 2 (Dawson, Smith) 20,264

Dundee U: McAlpine; Stewart, Stark, Fleming, Hegarty, Narey, Addison, Sturrock, Dodds (Payne), Holt, Kirkwood.

Rangers: McCloy; Miller, Dawson, Jardine, Jackson, Johnstone, Cooper (McLean), Russell, Parlante, McDonald, Smith.



Steve Daley was on the mark for Wolves against Derby.

HIBS (3) 4 (Rae, Callaghan, Bremner, Campbell)

MOTHERWELL (0) 0 6,000

Hibs: McArthur, Brazil, Duncan, Bremner (Hutchinson), Stewart, McNamara, Rae, MacLeod, Campbell, Callaghan, Brown.

Motherwell: Rennie, McLeod, Wark, Carrberry (Wilson), Mackin, Stevens, Donnelly (Rafferty), Pettigrew, Clinging, Irvine, Larnach.

PARTICK (0) 0 (O'Hara, McLaren o.g.)

MORTON (0) 1 (Ritchie pen.) 5,000

Partick: Rough; McKinnon, Whittaker, Campbell, Marr, Gibson (Love), Houston, Melrose, O'Hara, Somer, Park.

Morton: Baines; Miller, Holmes, Evans, Orr, Hutchinson (Rooney), Russell, McLaren, Thomson, McNeill (Scott), Ritchie.

ST. MIRRIN (2) 2 (Torrance, Abercrombie)

HEARTS (1) 1 (McQuade) 5,800

St Mirren: Thomson; Young, Munro, Fitzpatrick (Richardson), Dunlop, Copland, Weir, Torrance, Bone, Abercrombie, McGarvey.

Hearts: Allan; Kidd, Brown, Fraser, Rodgers, Craig, McQuade, Tierney (Black), Gibson, Busby, Robertson (Paterson).

MONDAY, APRIL 23

THIRD DIVISION

BRENTFORD (1) 1 (Smith)

ROTHERHAM (0) 0

Brentford: Bond; Shrub, Tucker, McNichol, Kruse, Fraser, Carlton, Salman, Smith, McCulloch, Loch, Phillips.

Rotherham: McAlister; Forrest, Breckin, Rhodes, Stancilffe, Green, Young, Phillips, Gwyther, Carr, Crawford.

MANSFIELD (1) 2 (Allen, James pen.)

SWANSEA (1) 2 (Curtis pen, Waddle) 6,420

Mansfield: New; Dawkins, Wood, Curtis, Saxby, McClelland, Miller, Carter, Austin, Bird, Allen (Hamilton).

Swansea: Crugdington; Phillips, Bartley, Evans, Stevenson, Toshack, Attley, James, Curtis, Waddle, Callaghan.

FOURTH DIVISION

BOURNEMOUTH (1) 3 (McDougall, Brown K 2)

STOCKPORT (0) 1 (Lee) 2,285

Bournemouth: Allen; Cunningham, Miller, Impey, Brown (R), Holder, Borthwick, MacDougall, Scott, Brown (K), Johnson.

Stockport: Lawson; Halford, Rutter, Edwards, Thorpe, Armstrong, Henson, Smith, Bradd, Summerbee (Seddon), Lee.

ROCHDALE (0) 1 (Esser)

NEWPORT (0) 0

Rochdale: Felgate; Hart, Snookes, Oliver, Bannon, Taylor, Hoy, Esser, Hilditch, O'Loughlin, Owen.

Newport: Plumley; Walden, Relish, Thompson, Oakes, Bruton, Vaughan, Lowndes, Goddard (Brown), Tynan, Moore.

TUESDAY, APRIL 24

FIRST DIVISION

BIRMINGHAM (0) 1 (Gallagher)

W.B.A. (0) 1 (Robson)

19,897 Birmingham: Freeman; Calderwood, Dennis, Page, Gallagher, Van Den Hauwe, Ainscow, Buckley, Givens, Dillon, Barrowclough.

W.B.A.: Godden; Batson, Statham, Brown (T), Wile, Robertson, Robson, Brown (A) (Mills), Regis, Cantello, Cunningham.

MAN. CITY (0) 1 (Deyna)

MIDDLESBROUGH (0) 0

28,264 Man. C: Corrigan; Reid, Donachie, Henry, Watson, Bell, Channon, Owen, Silkman, Deyna, Power.

Middlesbrough: Platt; Cragg, Johnson, Bell, Boam, McAndrew, Cochrane, Proctor, Ashcroft, Burns (Woof), Armstrong.

SOUTHAMPTON (0) 1 (Holmes)

LIVERPOOL (1) 1 (Johnson)

23,181 Southampton: Wells; Golac, Peach, Williams (S), Nicholl, Waldron, Ball, Boyer, Hayes (Williams O), Holmes, Baker.

Liverpool: Clemence; Neal, Kennedy (A), Thompson, Kennedy (R), Hansen, Dalglish, Case, Johnson, McDermott, Lee.

WOLVES (2) 4 (Rafferty, Berry, Daley, Daniel)

DERBY (0) 0

19,036 Wolves: Bradshaw; Palmer, Parkin, Daniel, McAlle, Berry, Hibbit, Daley, Rafferty, Richards, Patching.

Derby: McKellar; Clarke, Buckley, Daly, Webb, Wicks, Emson, Powell, Greenwood, Moreland, Crawford.

SECOND DIVISION

MILLWALL 0

FULHAM 0

7,397 Millwall: Cuff; Donaldson, Gregory, Chambers, Kitchener, Tagg, O'Callaghan, Mehmet, Dibble, Walker, Chatterton.

Fulham: Peyton; Strong, Mason, Lovell, Money, Gale, Davies, Beck, Guthrie, Kitchen, Hatter.

NOTTS CO (0) 0

LEICESTER (0) 1 (Lineker)

8,702 Notts Co: McManus; Richards, O'Brien, Blockley, Stubbs, Mair, McCulloch, Masson, Hooks, Hunt, Vinter.

Leicester: Wallington; Williams, Rose (Duffy), O'Neill, May, Ridley, Lineker, Goodwin, Henderson, Buchanan, Peake.

OLDHAM (1) 1 (Hilton)

WREXHAM (0) 0

6,258 Oldham: McDonnell; Wood, Edwards, Keegan, Hicks, Hurst, Hilton, Stainrod, Blair, Chapman, Heaton.

Wrexham: Davies; Sutton, Dwyer, Jones, Roberts, Giles, Shinton, Cartwright (Cegielski), Lyons, Buxton, Fox.



Gordon Strachan scored Aberdeen's goal in their 1-1 draw with Celtic.

PRESTON (0) 0

CAMBRIDGE (0) 2 (Finney, Buckley)

10,136 Preston: Tunks; Taylor, Cameron, Doyle, Uzelac, O'Riordan, Coleman, Haslegrave, Robinson, Bell, Bruce.

Cambridge: Webster; Graham, Smith, Stringer, Fallon, Buckley, Garner, Spriggs, Murray, Finney, Biley.

WEST HAM (2) 3 (Bonds, Pike, Robson)

BURNLEY (1) 1 (Noble)

24,139 West Ham: Parkes; McDowell, Brush, Bonds, Martin, Taylor (T), Holland, Devonshire, Cross, Pike, Robson.

Burnley: Stevenson; Scott, Brennan, Noble, Thomson, Rodaway, Jakub, Ingham, Robinson, Morley, James.

THIRD DIVISION

BLACKPOOL (0) 1 (Kellow)

EXETER (0) 1 (Sims)

3,136 Blackpool: Hesford; Malone, Gardner, Thompson, Sudaby, McEwan, Jones, Kellow, Spence, Ronson, Weston.

Exeter: Main; Templeman, Hore, Randell, Giles, Roberts, Neville, Rogers, Sims, Delves, Hatch.

CARLISLE (1) 1 (Bonnyman)

WATFORD (0) 0

7,141 Carlisle: Swinburne; Hoolickin, McCartney, MacDonald, Tait, Parker, McVitie, Bonnyman, Hamilton, Kemp, Ludlam.

Watford: Rankin; Stirk (Mercer), Harrison, Booth, Bolton, Garner, Pollard, Blissett, Jenkins, Joslyn, Train.

COLCHESTER 0

CHESTERFIELD 0

6,273 Colchester: Walker; Cook, Wright, Dowman, Wignall, Bunkell, Rowles, Gough, Dyer, Lee, Allison.

Chesterfield: Tingay; Tatt, Burton, Hunter, O'Neill, Prophett, Kowalski, Moss, Simpson, Walker, Heppolette.

HULL (0) 2(Edwards, McDonald) 3,960
SOUTHEND (0) 0
 Hull: Wealands; Nisbet, Skipper, Hawker, Croft (McDonald), Haigh, Roberts, Horswill, Edwards, Bannister, Farley.

SOUTHEND: Horn; Stead (Polycarpou), Yates, Dudley, Cusack, Hadley, Morris, Pountney, Parker, Abbott, Orlakowski.

PETERBOROUGH (1) 2(Ross pen., Cooke) 4,121
SWINDON (0) 1(Hamilton)
 Peterborough: Waugh; Hindley, Carmichael, Doyle, Smith, Ross, Butlin, McEwan, Gynn (Chard), Cooke, Cliss.

Swindon: Allan; Trollope, Ford, McHale, Carter, Stroud, Miller, Hamilton, Rowland, Mayes (Dornan), Bates.

PLYMOUTH (1) 2(Johnson, Megson)
CHESTER (2) 2(Raynor pen., Edwards) 4,686
 Plymouth: Hodge; McNeill, Hodges, Clarke, Uzzell, Basom, Johnson, Megson, Binney, Harrison, Rogers.

Chester: Lloyd; Nickeas, Burns, Storton, Raynor, Oakes, Jones, Livermore, Edwards, Phillips, Henderson.

SHREWSBURY (0) 2(Birch, Maguire)
TRANMERE (0) 1(Thomas) 6,013
 Shrewsbury: Mulhearn; King, Larkin, Cross, Griffin, Keay, Birch, Atkins, Tong, Maguire, Lindsay.

Transmere: Johnson; Flood, Mathias, Parry, Postlewhite, Evans, Craven, O'Neil, Kerr, Thomas, McAuley.

WALSALL (0) 0
BURY (1) 1(Stanton) 2,573
 Walsall: Turner; Paul, Caswell, King, McDonough, Sbragia, Birch, Kelly, Syrett, Williams, Rees.

Bury: Forrest; Ritson, Constantine, Lugg, Tucker, Bailey, Stanton, Wilson, Beamish, Gregory, Taylor.

FOURTH DIVISION

BARNESLEY (2) 2(Bell pen., Dungworth o.g.)
ALDERSHOT (0) 0 12,718
 Barnsley: Springett; Collins, Chambers, Pugh, Saunders, McCarthy, Little, Riley, Graham, Speedie, Bell.

Aldershot: Johnson; Scott, Howitt (Longhorn), Dixon, Youlden, Jopling, Crosby, Brodie, Needham, Dungworth, McGregor.

NORTHAMPTON (0) 1(Williams)
GRIMSBY (0) 2(Cumming, Waters) 3,019
 Northampton: Jayes; Geidmuntis, Mead, Saunders, Robertson, Farrington, Williams, Matthews, McCaffrey, Reilly, Frogatt.

Grimbsy: Batch; Moore (D), Moore (K), Waters, Wiggington, Crombie, Brolly, Ford, Drinkell, Lester, Cumming.

PORTRUSH (2) 4(Garwood 3, Lathan)
DONCASTER (0) 0 5,869
 Portrush: Mellor; Denyer, Viney, Barnard (McIlwraith), Ellis, Davey, Pullar, Lathan, Garwood, Showers, Bryant.

Doncaster: Peacock; Lally, Snodin, Bradley, Cannell, Oinely, Bentley, French, Cox (Pugh), Lewis, Flanagan.

PORTRUSH (0) 2(Farrell, Chamberlain)
BRADFORD C (0) 1(Baines) 2,262

Pot Vale: Dance; Beech, Griffiths, Healy, Delgado, Hawkins, Chamberlain (N), Farrell, Wright, Todd, Chamberlain (M).

Bradford C: Downsbrough; Podd, Watson, Reaney, Baines, Wood, Robertson (Gilliver), Dolan, Bates, McNiven, Hutchins.

SCUNTHORPE (1) 3(Earl 2, Oates)
HARLEPOOL (0) 1(Houchen) 1,226
 Scunthorpe: Crawford; Davy, Czuczman, Oates, Deere, Hall, Grimes, Kilmore, Couch, Kavanagh, Earl.

Hartlepool: Watson; Smith (G), Gorry, Norton (Larkin), Goldthorpe, Ayre, Lawrence, Houchen, Evans, Harding, Hogan.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25

EUROPEAN CUP Semi-Finals second-leg

COLOGNE (0) 0
NOTT FOREST (0) 1(Bowyer)
 Cologne: Schumacher; Konopka, Zimmermann, Strack, Schuster, Cullmann, Van Gool, Glawatz (Okudera), Muller (Flohe), Neumann, Prestin.

Nott F: Shilton; Anderson, Clark, McGovern, Lloyd, Burns, O'Neill, Bowyer, Birrell, Woodcock, Robertson.

FIRST DIVISION

ASTON VILLA (0) 5(Shelton 3, 1 pen., Deehan 2)
ARSENAL (1) 1(Stapleton) 26,168

Villa: Rimmer; Gidman, Gibson, Gregory, Ormsby, Mortimer, Cowans, Shelton, Deehan, Cropley, Swain.

Arsenal: Jennings; Rice, Walford, Talbot, Gatting, Devine, Brady, Sunderland, Stapleton, Price, Rix.

LEEDS (2) 5(Cherry, Gray, F pen., Hart, Harris, Hawley)

Leeds: Harvey; Hird, Gray (F), Flynn, Hart, Madeley, Harris, Cherry, Hankin (Hawley), Currie, Graham.

Bolton: McDonagh; Graham, Burke, Greaves, Allardyce, Walsh, Morgan, Whatmore, Smith, Worthington, McNab.

MAN. UTD (0) 1(Macari)
NORWICH (0) 0 33,678

Man. U: Bailey; Nicholl, Albiston, McIlroy, McQueen, Buchan (Grimes), Coppell, McCreery, Jordan, Macari, Thomas.

Norwich: Hansbury; Bond, Davies, McGuire, Hoadley, Powell, Neighbour, Reeves, Robson, Fashanu, Peters.



A Bob Lee goal helped Sunderland to a 6-2 win v. Sheffield United.

SECOND DIVISION

BLACKBURN (1) 1(McKenzie)

NEWCASTLE (1) 3(Withe 3) 4,902

Blackburn: Butcher; Rathbone, Bailey, Coughlin, Parkin, Fazackerley, Brotherton, Garner, Craig, Fowler, McKenzie.

Newcastle: Carr; Mitchell, Bird, Martin, Barton, Natrass, Shoulder, Suggett, Withe, Hibbit, Nicholson.

CARDIFF (1) 2(Moore, Stevens)

LUTON (0) 1(Roberts o.g.) 10,549

Cardiff: Healey; Jones, Sullivan, Campbell (Grapes), Roberts, Thomas, Bishop, Evans, Moore, Stevens, Buchanan.

Luton: Findlay, Stephens, Aizlewood, Donaghy, Philipson-Masters, Price, Hill, West, Taylor, Hatton, Birchenall.

SUNDERLAND (2) 6(Rostron 3, 2 pens., Lee, Brown, Gilbert)

SHEFF. UTD. (1) 2(Kenworthy, Sabella) 29,822

Sunderland: Siddall; Whitworth, Gilbert, Docherty, Ashurst, Elliott, Arnott, Rostron, Brown, Buckley, Lee.

Sheff. U: Conroy; Cutbush, Tibbott, Kenworthy, Garner, Speight, Anderson, Rioch, Guy, Sabella, Hamson.

THIRD DIVISION

LINCOLN (1) 2(Sunley, Fleming)

GILLINGHAM (2) 4(Funnel 2, Westwood, Price) 1,863

Lincoln: Grotier; Guest, Laybourne, Fleming, Cross, Cooper, Hobson, Ward, Sunley, Watson, Cockerill.

Gillingham: Hillyard; Sharpe, Barker, Overton, Weatherley, Hughes, Nicholl, White, Price, Westwood, Funnel.

OXFORD (0) 1(White)

SHEFF. WED. (0) 1(Hornsby) 3,243

Oxford: Milkins, McIntosh, Fogg, Briggs, Bodel, Jeffrey, Graydon, Taylor, Berry (White), Seacole, Duncan.

Sheff. W.: Bolder, Shirtliff, Grant, Mullen, Pickering, Smith, Wynde, Porterfield, Curran, Johnson (Lowry), Hornsby.

FOURTH DIVISION

CREWE (0) 1(Coyne)

WIMBLETON (2) 2(Leslie, Parsons) 1,254

Crewe: Rafferty, Wilkinson, Dulson, Nicholls, Bowles, Bevan, Robertson, Cheetham, Spence, Coyne, Roberts.

Wimbledon: Goddard, Haverson, Perkins, Galliers, Bowgett, Cunningham, Leslie, Briley, Knowles, Cork, Parsons.

HEREFORD (0) 3(Spiring 2, Thomas)

HUDDERSFIELD (0) 0 2,635

Hereford: Hughes, Emery, Thomas, Strong, Layton, Spirig, Feeley, Stephens, McGrellis, Gould, White.

Huddersfield: Starling, Brown, Sandercock, Holmes, Hanvey, Sutton, Fletcher, Hart, Armstrong (Gray), Robins, Bielby.

READING (1) 1(Bowman)

DARLINGTON (0) 0 7,117

Reading: Death, Peters, White, Bowman, Hicks, Bennett, Alexander, Hetzke, Kearns, Shipley, Sanchez.

Darlington: Burleigh, Nattress, Cochrane, Hedley, Craig, Hague, Lyons, Wann, Walsh, Ferguson, Seal.

TORQUAY (1) 3(Cooper 3)

YORK (0) 0 1,724

Torquay: Turner, Twitchin, Ritchie, Green, Payne, Dunne, Davies, Murphy, Cooper, Lawrence, Wilson.

York: Brown, Kay, Walsh, Pugh, Faulkner, Clements, Ford, Stronach, Loggie, McDonald, Staniforth.

SCOTTISH PREMIER

ABERDEEN (1) 2(Archibald, McGhee)

RANGERS (1) 1(Smith) 17,000

Aberdeen: Clark, Hamilton, McLelland, McLeish, Garner, Miller, McGhee, Archibald, Sullivan (McMaster), Strachan, Scanlon.

Rangers: McCloy, Miller (Urquhart), Dawson, Jardine, Johnstone, MacDonald, McLean, Russell, Parlante, Smith, Cooper.

CELTIC (0) 2(Edvaldsson, Aitken)

ST. MIRRIN (0) 1(McGarvey) 18,000

Celtic: Latchford, McGrain, Lynch, Aitken, Edvaldsson, McLeod, Provan, Connroy, Davidson, Burns, Doyle.

St. Mirren: Thomson, Young, Munro, Fitzpatrick, Dunlop, Copland, Weir, Torrance, Bone, Abercrombie, McGarvey.

DUNDEE UTD (2) 2(Dodds, Kirkwood)

HEARTS (0) 1(Gibson, pen) 6,005

Dundee U: McAlpine, Stewart, Stark, Payne, Hegarty, Narey, Addison, Sturrock, Dodds, Holt, Kirkwood.

Hearts: Allan, Kidd, Black, Fraser, Liddell, Craig, Gibson, Brown (Prentice), Scott, Tierney (Busby), McQuade.

PARTICK (4) 6(Park, Melrose 3, Somner, O'Hara)

HIBS (0) 1(Callaghan) 5,000

Partick: Rough, McKinnon, Whittaker, Campbell, Marr, Gibson, Houston (McAdam), Melrose, O'Hara, Somner, Park (Doyle).

Hibs: McArthur, Kilgour, Duncan, Bremner, Fleming, Brown, Rae, McLeod, Campbell, Calachan, Hutchinson.

THURSDAY, APRIL 26

FOURTH DIVISION

HALIFAX (2) 2(Campbell, Dunleavy)

BRADFORD C (0) 0 2,343

Halifax: Kilner, Hutt, Dunleavy, Smith, Burke, Trainer, Firth, Kennedy, Campbell, Carroll, Loska.

Bradford C: Smith, Podd, Watson, Middleton, Baines, Wood, Johnson, Dolan, Szabo, McNiven (Martinez), Hutchinson.

NORTHAMPTON (0) 0

BARNESLEY (1) 1(Bell) 3,305

Northampton: Poole, Geidmuntis, Mead, Saunders, Robertson, Farrington, Williams, Matthews, McCaffrey, Reilly (Ashenden), Frogatt.

Barnsley: Springett, Collins, Chambers, Pugh, Saunders, McCarthy, Speedie, Riley, Graham (Prendergast), Miller, Bell.

THIRD DIVISION

TRANMERE 0

WALSALL 0 1,453

Transmere: Johnson, Flood, Mathias, Parry, Postlewhite, Evans, Craven (Peplow), O'Neil, Kerr, Thomas, McAuley.

Walsall: Turner, Macken, Caswell, King, Serella, Sbragia, Birch, Waddington, Syrett, McDonough, Rees (Paul).

FRIDAY, APRIL 27

THIRD DIVISION

TRANMERE 0

WALSALL 0 1,453

Transmere: Johnson, Flood, Mathias, Parry, Postlewhite, Evans, Craven (Peplow), O'Neil, Kerr, Thomas, McAuley.

Walsall: Turner, Macken, Caswell, King, Serella, Sbragia, Birch, Waddington, Syrett, McDonough, Rees (Paul).

STOCKPORT 0

POR Vale 0 3,343

Stockport: Lawson, Halford, Rutter, Edwards, Thorpe, Armstrong, Henson, Sumnerbee, Bradd, Smith, Lee.

Port Vale: Dance, Beech, Griffiths, Healy, Delgado, Hawkins, Chamberlain (N), Farrell, Wright, Todd, Chamberlain (M).

SATURDAY, APRIL 28

FIRST DIVISION

ARSENAL (0) 1(Walford)

NORWICH (0) 1(Fashanu)

Arsenal: Jennings, Devine, Nelson, Talbot, Gatting, Walford, Brady, Sunderland, Stapleton, Price, Rix.

Norwich: Hansbury, Bond, Davies, McGuire, Hoadley, Powell, Neighbour, Reeves, Fashanu, Paddon, Peters.

ASTON VILLA (0) 2(Wilkins G. o.g., Deehan)

CHELSEA (1) 1(Langley) 29,219

Villa: Rimmer, Gidman, Gibson, Gregory, Evans, Mortimer, Cowans, Shelton, Deehan, Cropley, Swain.

Chelsea: Bonetti, Wilkins (G), Harris, Bannon, Droy, Chivers, Stanley, Wilkins (R), Fillery (Aylott), Langley, Walker.

BRISTOL C 0

LEEDS 0

Bristol C: Shaw, Sweeney, Whitehead, Gow, Collier, Hunter, Tainton, Ritchie, Royle, Mabbutt, Meyer.

Leeds: Harvey, Hird, Gray (F), Cherry, Hart, Madeley, Harris, Hampton, Hankin, Gray (E), Graham.

EVERTON 0

BIRMINGHAM (0) 0 22,958

Everton: Wood, Barton, Jones, Higgins, Wright, Todd, King, Dobson, Latchford, Kidd, Eastoe (Nulty).

Birmingham: Freeman, Calderwood, Dennis, Page, Gallagher (Ivey), Van Den Hauwe, Dillon, Ainscow, Givens, Buckley, Barrowclough.

IPSWICH (2) 2(Muhren, Brazil)

TOTTENHAM (0) 1(Hoddle pen.) 28,179

Ipswich: Cooper, Burley, Mills, Thijssen, Osman, Butcher, Wark, Muhren, Brazil, Gates, Woods.

Tottenham: Aleksić, Lee, McAllister, Miller, Lacy, Perryman, Pratt, Ardiles, Jones, Hodde, Villa.

MAN. UTD. 0

DERBY 0

Man. U: Bailey, McCrae, Albliston, McIlroy, Nicholl, Houston, Coppell, Ritchie (Grimes), Jordan, Macari, Thomas.

Derby: McKellar, Langan, Buckley, Daly, McFarland, Wicks, Clark, Powell, Duncan, Moreland, Greenwood.

MIDDLESBROUGH (1) 1(Burns)

W.B.A. (0) 1(Brown A.) 18,063

Middlesbrough: Platt, Crags, Johnson (Jankovic), Mahoney, Ramage, McAndrew, Cochrane, Proctor, Ashcroft, Burns, Armstrong.

W.B.A.: Godden, Batson, Statham, Brown (T), Wile, Robertson, Robson, Brown (A), Mills, Cantello, Cunningham (Regis).

NOTTM FOREST 0

LIVERPOOL 0 41,898

Nottm F: Shilton, Anderson, Clark, McGovern, Lloyd, Burns, O'Neill, Francis, Birley, Woodcock, Robertson.

Liverpool: Clemence, Neal, Kennedy (A), Thompson, Kennedy (R), Hansen, Dalglash, Case, Heighway (Lee), McDermott, Souness.

Q.P.R. (1) 5(Allen 3, Shanks, Walsh pen.)

COVENTRY (1) 1(Wallace) 10,950

Q.P.R.: Richardson, Clement, Gillard, Hollins, Howe, Roeder, Busby, Shanks, Walsh, Goddard, Allen.

Coventry: Sealey, Roberts, McDonald, Blair, Holton, Coop, Nardiello (Gooding), Wallace, Hunt, Powell, Hutchinson.

SOUTHAMPTON (1) 1(Hebberd)

MAN. CITY (0) 0 19,744

Southampton: Wells, Golac (Baker), Peach, Williams (S), Nicholl, Waldron, Ball, Boyer, Hebberd, Holmes, Williams (O).

Man. C: Corrigan, Reid, Donachie, Deyna, Watson, Bell, Channon, Owen, Silkman, Henry, Power.

WOLVES (0) 1(Richards)

BOLTON (0) 1(Whatmore) 18,225

Wolves: Bradshaw, Palmer, Parkin, Daniel, McAlle, Berry, Hibbitt, Daley, Rafferty, Richards, Patching.

CONTINUED OVERLEAF

Bolton: McDonagh; Graham, Dunne, Greaves, Walsh, Allardyce, Morgan, Whatmore, Worthington, Nicholson, McNab.

SECOND DIVISION

BRIGHTON (1) 2 (Maybank, Rollings)

BLACKBURN (0) 1 (Aston) 26,141
Brighton: Steele; Cattlin, Williams, Horton, Rollings, Clark, Ryan, Ward, Maybank, Sayer, Poskett.

Blackburn: Butcher; Rathbone, Bailey, Coughlin, Parkin, Fazackerley, Brotherton, Garner (Aston), Craig, Fowler, McKenzie.

BURNLEY (0) 0

ORIENT (0) 1 (Mayo) 7,162
Burnley: Stevenson; Scott, Brennan, Noble, Robinson, Rodaway, Hall, Jakub, Morley, Kindon, James.

Orient: Jackson; Hughton, Fisher, Greathouse, Gray (N), Went, Chedzio, Roffey, Mayo, Gray (M) (Banjo), Coates.

C. PALACE (1) 2 (Swindlehurst, Murphy)

NOTTS CO (0) 0 23,880
Palace: Burridge; Hinshelwood, Sansom, Kember, Cannon, Gilbert, Nicholas, Murphy, Swindlehurst, Walsh, Hilaire.

Notts Co: McManus; Richards, O'Brien, Blockley, Stubbs (McVay), Mann, McCulloch, Masson, Hooks, Hunt, Vinter.

FULHAM (2) 3 (Strong, Davies 2)

LEICESTER (0) 0 7,002
Fulham: Peyton; Strong, Mason, Lock, Money, Gale, Davies, Beck, Guthrie, Kitchen, Hatter.

Leicester: Wallington; O'Neill, Williams (Arr), Ridley, May, Duffy, Lineker, Goodwin, Henderson, Peake, Lee.

MILLWALL (0) 0

BRISTOL R (2) 3 (White 2, Williams) 5,266
Millwall: Cuff; Donaldson, Gregory, Chambers, Kitchener, Tagg, Chatterton, Mehmet (O'Callaghan), Dibble, Walker, Towner.

Bristol R: Thomas; Jones, Bater, Aitken, Taylor, Emmanuel, Petts, Williams, White, Mabbatt, Prince.

OLDHAM (2) 4 (Stainrod 2, Wood, Young)

CAMBRIDGE (1) 1 (Finney) 6,185

Oldham: McDonnell; Wood, Edwards, Keegan, Blair, Hurst, Heaton, Young, Stainrod, Chapman, Hilton.

Cambridge: Key; Graham (Smith), Smith, Stringer, Fallon, Buckley, Garner, Spriggs, Murray, Finney, Biley.

PRESTON (1) 2 (Doyle, Coleman)

LUTON (0) 2 (Haslegrave o.g., Moss) 8,927
Preston: Tunks; Taylor, Cameron, Bell, Uzelac, O'Riordan, Coleman, Haslegrave, Robinson, Doyle, Bruce.

Luton: Findlay; Stephens, Aizlewood, Donaghy, Phillipson-Master, Price, Hill, West, Taylor, Hatton, Birchenall (Moss).

SHEFF. UTD (1) 2 (Anderson, Guy)

CHARLTON (0) 1 (Hales) 16,888
Sheff. U: Conroy; Cutbush, Tibbott, Kenworthy, Garner, Speight, Guy, Anderson, Finnieston, Sabella, Hamson.

Charlton: Johns; Shaw, Campbell, Gritt, Berry, Madden, Powell, Robinson, Hales, Grisley, Churchouse.

STOKE 0

NEWCASTLE 0

23,271

Stoke: Jones; Dodd, Scott, Kendall, Smith, Doyle, Randall, Irvine, O'Callaghan, Busby (Crooks), Richardson.

WEST HAM (1) 1 (Bonds)

WREXHAM (0) 1 (Shinton) 28,865
West Ham: Parkes; McDowell, Brush, Bonds, Martin, Taylor (T), Holland, Devonshire, Cross, Pike (Lansdowne), Robson.

Wrexham: Davies; Cegelski, Dwyer, Jones, Roberts, Giles, Shinton, Sutton, McNeil, Lyons (Buxton), Fox.

SUNDERLAND (0) 1 (Ashurst)

CARDIFF (1) 2 (Moore, Bishop) 36,526
Sunderland: Siddall; Whitworth, Bolton, Docherty, Ashurst, Elliott, Chisholm (Clarke), Arnott, Brown, Rostron, Lee.

Cardiff: Healey; Jones, Sullivan, Campbell, Roberts, Dwyer, Buchanan, Bishop, Evans, Moore, Stevens.

WEST HAM (1) 1 (Bonds)

SHIRESBURY (0) 0 14,902

Gillingham: Hillyard; Young, Barker, Overton, Weatherley, Hughes, Nicholl, White, Price, Westwood, Funnell.

Shrewsbury: Mulhearn, King, Larkin, Cross, Griffin, Keay, Birch, Atkins, Tong, Lindsay, Maguire (Biggins).

HULL (0) 1 (Bannister)

SWINDON (1) 1 (Rowland) 4,980

Hull: Wealands; Nisbet, Skipper (Hood), McDonald, Haigh, Hawker, Roberts, Horswill, Edwards, Bannister, Farley.

Swindon: Allan; Trollope, Ford, Carter, Stroud, McHale, Miller, Bates, Hamilton, Rowland, Mayes (Lewis).

BURY (1) 2 (Hilton, Wilson)

COLCHESTER (1) 2 (Gough, Wright) 2,905

Bury: Forrest; Ritson, Constantine, Lugg, Tucker, Bailey (Hilton), Stanton, Wilson, Beaminish, Gregory, Taylor.

Colchester: Walker; Cook, Wright, Foley, Wignall, Downman, Dyer, Gough, Rowles, Allinson, Lee.

CHESTER (1) 2 (Mellor, Phillips)

SHEFF. WED (0) 2 (Owen, Lowey) 4,200

Chester: Lloyd; Raynor, Burns, Rush, Storton, Nickeas, Jones, Livermore, Mellor, Phillips, Henderson.

Sheff. Wed: Bolder; Shirtliff (Owen), Grant, Pickering, Mullen, Rushbury, Curran, Portfield, Wyld, Lowey, Hornsby.

CHESTERFIELD (1) 1 (Cammack)

ROTHERHAM (0) 0 4,160

Chesterfield: Carr; Nattrass, Mitchell, Martin, Bird, Barton, Shoulder, Suggett, Withe, Hibbitt, Nicholson.

STOKE (1) 1 (Bird)

MANCHESTER CITY (0) 0 4,229

Oxford: Milkins; McIntosh, Fogg, Briggs (Foley), Bodel, Jeffrey, Graydon, Taylor, Berry, Seacole, White.

Lincoln: Grotter; Guest, Laybourne, Cross, Smith, Cooper, Watson, Fleming, Harford, Sunley, Cockerill.

PETERBOROUGH (0) 1 (Gynn)

BLACKPOOL (0) 2 (Kellow 2) 4,004

Peterborough: Waugh; Collins, Carmichael, Doyle, Smith, Ross, Gynn, Sargent, Cooke, Cliss, McEwan.

Blackpool: Hesford; Malone, McEwan, Thompson, Sudaby, Gardner, Kellow, Jones (Hockaday), Spence, Ronson, Westo.

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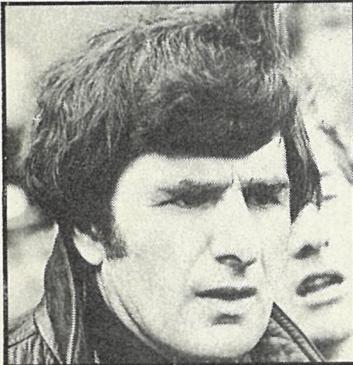
CLUB SPOTLIGHT

compiled by SEAN CREEDON

Dundalk

THE REPUBLIC'S 'DOUBLE' WINNERS

As far back as 1895 there has been a soccer team in the County Louth Town. Originally



The Men In Charge.

Manager: Jim McLaughlin (above).
Assistant manager: Frank O'Neill.
Team director: Jim O'Reilly.
Trainer: Paddy Carragher.
Chairman: Oliver Quinn.
Secretary: Edna McGuill.
Treasurer: Tom McEvoy.

known as Dundalk Great Northern Railway F.C., they dropped the G.N.R., part when they were admitted to the League of Ireland in 1926.

In 1933 Dundalk were the first club from outside Dublin to win the League of Ireland Championship and 30 years later they became the first Eire club to win a game in the European Cup when they beat F.C. Zurich in Switzerland.

On November 24, 1974, Derryman Jim McLaughlin was appointed manager and without doubt he is the most successful ever to hold that position with the border club. In his first full season in charge Dundalk won the League in what was their Golden Jubilee Year. The following season it was the FAI Cup; 1977-78 season the League Cup, and now the coveted League and Cup double.

The sale of three of their young stars to Liverpool last year has put the club in a solid financial position and there are ambitious plans to improve the accommodation at Oriel Park, which is one of only three Eire grounds that has proper floodlights.

HOW THEY WON THE LEAGUE

Sept	10 v Shamrock Rovers	A 2-1 Fitzgerald, Crawley.
	17 v Limerick	H 2-0 Muckian, Byrne.
	24 v Athlone Town	A 2-2 Carlyle 2.
Oct	1 v Home Farm	H 2-0 Dunning, Crawley.
	8 v St Patrick's Ath.	A 2-2 Dainty (pen), O'Neill.
	15 v Sligo Rovers	H 1-1 Flanagan.
	22 v Cork Alberts	A 1-1 Byrne.
	29 v Drogheda Utd.	H 1-0 Carlyle.
Nov	5 v Bohemians	A 0-0
	12 v Thurles Town	H 4-1 Carlyle 2, Flanagan, Muckian
	19 v Galway Rovers	A 2-2 Flanagan, Dainty (pen).
	26 v Shelbourne	H 3-1 Martin Lawlor, Dainty (pen)
Dec	3 v Finn Harps	A 1-2 Mahon
	10 v Cork Celtic	H 2-0 Dainty, Carlyle.
	17 v Waterford	A 0-1
	24 v Shamrock Rovers	H 3-2 Byrne, Muckian, Flanagan.
	27 v Limerick	A 2-0 Carlyle, Muckian.
Jan	7 v Home Farm	A 1-0 Muckian
	14 v St Patrick's Ath.	H 5-1 Carlyle 2, Muckian, Dainty (pen), McConville
	21 v Sligo Rovers	A 2-1 Muckian, Carlyle.
	25 v Athlone Town	H 3-0 Muckian, Byrne, McKenna.
	28 v Cork Alberts	H 3-0 Carlyle 2, Muckian.
Feb	4 v Drogheda Utd.	A 0-1
	18 v Bohemians	H 1-0 Dunning.
	25 v Thurles Town	A 3-1 Byrne 2, Carlyle.
Mar	4 v Galway Rovers	H 2-1 Muckian 2.
	18 v Shelbourne	A 3-0 Carlyle, Dainty, Flanagan.
	25 v Finn Harps	H 1-1 Carlyle
Apr	7 v Cork Celtic	A 3-0 Byrne, Carlyle, Dunning.
	10 v Waterford	H 0-3



EUROPEAN RECORD

1963 — Champions' Cup — Lost to FC Zurich on 4-2 agg.
1967 — Champions' Cup — Lost to Vasas Budapest on 9-1 agg.
1968 — U.E.F.A. Cup — Beat Utrecht D.O.S. on 3-2 agg; lost to Glasgow Rangers on 9-1 agg.
1969 — U.E.F.A. Cup — Lost to Liverpool on 14-0 agg.
1976 — Champions' Cup — Lost to P.S.V. Eindhoven on 7-1 agg.
1977 — Cup-Winners' Cup — Lost to Hajduk Split on 4-1 agg.

Founded: 1919.

Turned Professional: 1926. Joined League of Ireland same year.

Home Ground: Oriel Park.

Record Attendance: 15,000 v. Shamrock Rovers, Shield Final 1966.

Colours: White shirts with three black vertical stripes, black shorts, black socks with red and white tops.

Most League Points in a Season: 45 (1978-79).

Most League Goals in a Season: 64 (1930-31).

Top League Scorer in a Season: L. Munro 19 (1959-60).

Record Transfer Received: £50,000 for S. Braddish, D. Carroll and B. Duff to Liverpool May, 1978.

Record Transfer paid: C. Muckian £4,000 from Drogheda United September, 1978.



PEN PICTURES

(League appearances and League goals for 1978-79 season)

RICHIE BLACKMORE: Goalkeeper. Although born in Birmingham he began his career with Bristol City. Later moved back to his home town where a fellow apprentice was Trevor Francis. Has been with Dundalk five years. Age 25, Occ: Manager Sports Shop. L. App: 27.

TOMMY McCONVILLE: Defender. Generally regarded as one of the best Irish players not to have joined an English club. But he has sampled the American scene and also had spells with Shamrock Rovers and Waterford. Six Eire and nine Inter League caps, he is one of only two locals in the side. Age 31. Occ: Driver. L. App: 30. G: 1.

DERMOT KEELY: Central-defender. Bought for a bargain £2,000 from St Patrick's Athletic at the beginning of the season. Dermot won the Player of the Month award for September and was voted Player of the Year by the Supporters' Club. Celtic and Birmingham showed a keen interest in this tough defender during the season. Age 25. Occ: Teacher. L. App: 28.

MARTIN LAWLER: Left-back. Younger brother of club captain Mick. Martin had a great season missing only one game through injury. He won his first representative honour for the League of Ireland against Chiasso last month. Age 20. Occ: Sales Rep. L. App: 29. G: 1.

PADDY DUNNING: Central-defender. Joined the club from Shelbourne in September, 1977. He was voted Player of the Month in Eire for March and at present is assisting Los Angeles Skyhawks in the NASL. Two Eire and nine L.O.I. caps. Age 26. Occ: Pro. L. App: 29. G: 6.

LEO FLANAGAN: Midfielder. Another bargain buy from St Patrick's Athletic last summer. 'Pop' has had a great season in the black and white strip and his displays did not go unnoticed because he

was called up by Johnny Giles for the League of Ireland selection. Age 23. Occ: Butcher. L. App: 30. G: 5.

MICK LAWLOR: Captain. Midfielder. Moved to the County Louth club from Shelbourne two years back. Mick was a member of the all-conquering Shamrock Rovers side of the late 60's. A knee injury kept him out for most of the season. Five Eire and four Inter League caps. Age 30. Occ: Company Director. L. App: 17 and 1 sub.

SEAN BYRNE: Midfielder. Another former St Patrick's Athletic player, he joined Dundalk in February, '78. After being dropped early in the season he fought his way back to the first eleven. Age 23. Occ: Lorry Driver. L. App: 19 and 4 sub. G: 7.

CATHAL MUCKIAN: Striker. Returned to his home town at the beginning of the season for a club record fee of £4,000 from neighbours Drogheda United. He is one of the best strikers in Eire at present. Four League of Ireland and one Eire cap. Age 27. Occ: Bank Official. L. App: 27. G: 11.

HILARY CARLYLE: Striker. This big Derryman was signed from Finn Harps at the beginning of the season. He has fitted in well with Muckian up-front. Age 24. Occ: Driver. L. App: 26. G: 26.

JIMMY DAINTY: Winger. A cousin of goalkeeper Blackmore, Jimmy played for Walsall and West Bromwich before joining Dundalk five seasons back. Six League of Ireland caps. Age 25. Occ: Pro. L. App: 29. G: 6.

VINCENT MCKENNA: Utility player. Since he joined the club from Shelbourne last January Vinny has occupied various roles for the club. A former Eire Youth international. Age 25. Occ: Clerk. L. App: 8 and 4 sub. G: 1.

LIAM DEVINE: Midfielder. Another former Shelbourne player. He was signed as cover for the injured Mick Lawlor. Age 24. Occ: Technician. L. App: 5 and 3 sub.

The 1978-79 Campaign.

League: 1932-33; 1962-63; 1966-67; 1975-76; 1978-79.
F.A.I. Cup: 1942; 1949; 1952; 1958; 1977; 1979.
League Cup: 1978.

Bass League — Champions.
F.A.I. Cup — Winners.
Bass L Cup — 1st Round.

BACK ROW (left to right): Jimmy Dainty, Tom McConvile, Hilary Carlyle, Ritchie Blackmore, Sean Byrne, Cathal Muckian, and Leo Flanagan. FRONT ROW: Paddy Dunning, Liam Devine, Mick Lawlor, Dermot Keely, Martin Lawlor, and Vincent McKenna.

Your Go!



DUNDALK -Republic of Ireland Double-winners

DUNDALK

SHOOT!

FOCUS ON PAUL RANDALL

Stoke City

FULL NAME: Paul Randall

BIRTHPLACE: Liverpool

BIRTHDATE: 16th February, 1958

HEIGHT: 6ft

WEIGHT: 12st 5lbs

PREVIOUS CLUBS: Glastonbury, Frome in the Western League and Bristol Rovers

MARRIED: No

CAR: Renault 18TS

FAVOURITE PLAYER: Former Northern Ireland star, George Best

FAVOURITE OTHER TEAM: My home team, Liverpool

MOST DIFFICULT OPPONENT: They're all tough

MOST MEMORABLE MATCH: Scoring both goals for Bristol Rovers against Southampton in the 1977-78 F.A. Cup Fourth Round. We won 2-0

BIGGEST THRILL: Signing professional forms and scoring on my debut for Bristol Rovers and gaining promotion with Stoke

BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: Losing to Ipswich in the next round of the above F.A. Cup

BEST COUNTRIES VISITED: Holland and Majorca

MISCELLANEOUS LIKES: Winning

MISCELLANEOUS DISLIKES: Travelling on long away journeys

FAVOURITE T.V. SHOWS: Happy Days, Monty Python's Flying Circus and any sports programmes

FAVOURITE SINGERS: Stevie Wonder, David Bowie and Elton John

BEST FRIENDS: My team-mates at Stoke

and all my mates back home in Liverpool

BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER: My father, Ken, and the staff at Bristol Rovers

BIGGEST DRAG IN SOCCER: Losing and not scoring goals

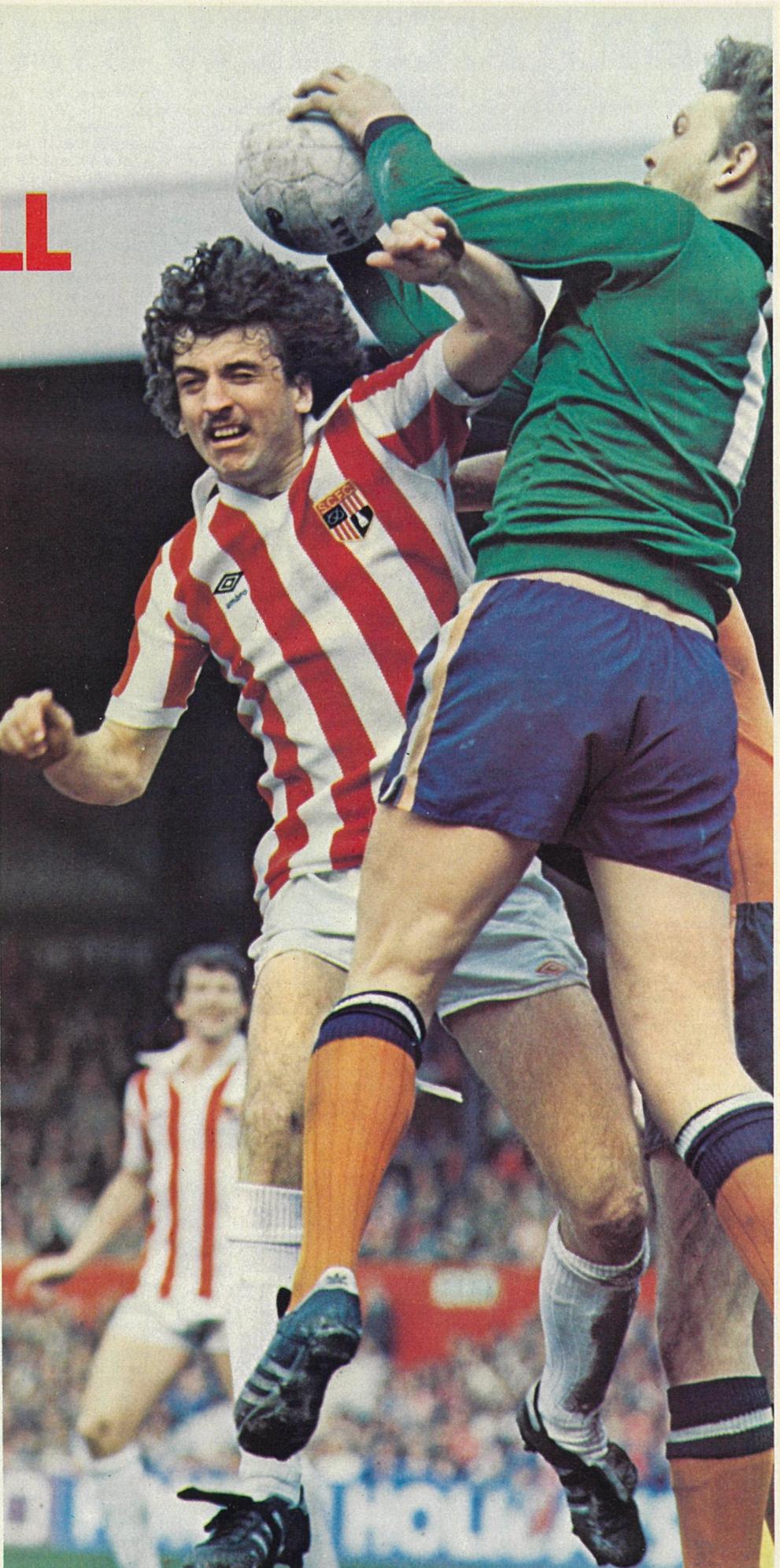
INTERNATIONAL HONOURS: None, yet!

PERSONAL AMBITION: To play for England and to win the First Division Championship with Stoke

PROFESSIONAL AMBITION: To achieve my personal ambition

IF YOU WEREN'T A FOOTBALLER, WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'D BE? I'd still be at the supermarket

WHICH PERSON IN THE WORLD WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO MEET? The Queen at Wembley



BRAZIL'S NEW STAR

THE new Brazilian team thrashed Paraguay 6-0 on the night of May 17th in the Maracana Stadium and the new star was the tall (6ft 2in) centre-forward from São Paulo with the unlikely name of Socrates.

He intends to specialise in orthopaedics but for the moment has decided to make some money in football, for which he is superbly equipped. Tall and boney, Socrates is skilful and intelligent and capable of sending a defence the wrong way with a dummy.

He drops deep into midfield, only to re-appear again in the opponents' goalmouth when least expected. He didn't score against Paraguay, though he hit the crossbar once and was directly involved in the play preceding all six Brazilian goals.

After the game, manager Cláudio Coutinho said: "Socrates'

football is so advanced and sophisticated that I was afraid the other players wouldn't understand him."

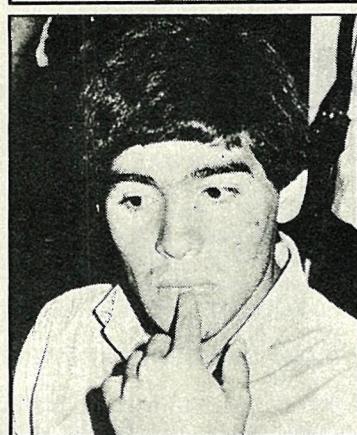
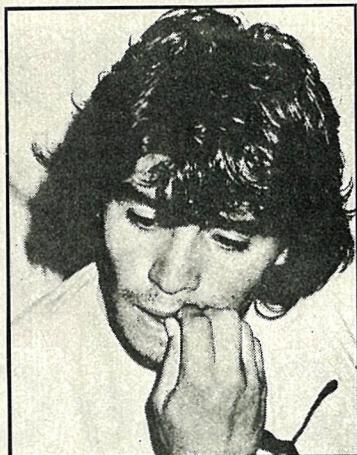
But understand they did, especially Zico, who scored three times (once from the penalty-spot).

Apart from Socrates, Brazil have at least two other centre-forwards of great talent in Reinaldo and Careca. Reinaldo is still recovering from the cartilage problems that plagued him in Argentina, but doctors are confident he will recover fully with youth on his side at 22. Careca is playing well for Guarani, from the State of São Paulo, but wasn't called into the new Brazilian team because his team is involved in the Libertadores Cup.

If one considers that Coutinho can still count on players like Júlio César, the outside-left from Flamengo, absent against Paraguay through injury, and Nelinho, the right full-back from Cruzeiro

who kicked that ball so viciously past Zoff in Argentina, one begins to understand why these days manager Coutinho has recovered his face. Prospects are good after a bleak period that extended from the disintegration of the 1970 World Cup team to last year in Argentina, Brazilian football has begun to get back some of its old flair.

Incidentally, Nelinho the other day managed to kick a ball over and above the top of the gigantic Pampulha Stadium, in Belo Horizonte, at the request of a television station. Lots of players had tried the feat before and failed. The Pampulha Stadium is almost as high as Maracanã and Nelinho now says he is going to tackle the latter sometime in the future. Perhaps he could tackle Nelson's Column on his next trip to London.



WORLD WIDE

COMPILED BY



CHRIS DAVIES

QUITE A NIGHT!

OUR Spanish correspondent was amazed at Barcelona's exciting 4-3 win over Fortuna Dusseldorf in the Cup-Winners' Cup Final, after predicting a low-scoring game!

"It was only the second time that Barcelona had conceded three goals this year," he explains, "and the first time they'd scored four goals outside Barcelona since January 4th, 1976!"

It demonstrates the Spanish club's customary safety-first attitude that Sanchez who scored the first goal, afterwards admitted he was convinced he'd scored the winning goal! Incidentally, the penalty Carlos Rexach hit so feebly was his first miss from the spot for eight years!

Barcelona's celebrations were momentous — 400 bottles of champagne were consumed after the match; Hans Krankl (below) shaved off his beard by way of celebration; a million people lined the streets of Barcelona when the team arrived home; 50,000 went all the way to the stadium to watch them do a lap of honour with the Cup; Johan Neeskens broke down with emotion and had to be given tranquillisers after the crowd chanted his name and begged the directors to keep him on instead of replacing him with Allan

HAMBURGER SV and England star Kevin Keegan with his European Footballer of the Year award.



Simonsen; and the club president was so offended at this criticism of his decision he resigned on the spot!

Neeskens promptly disappeared for two days, avoided all the club's efforts to locate him and finally turned up on the Saturday afternoon, expecting to play against Real Sociedad. Manager Rife had already excluded him from the team . . .

Ninety thousand fans turned up to watch the match, even though it was being televised live — and saw Barcelona slump to a 1-3 home defeat, the Northern club's first win in Barcelona in 35 years of League football!

All in all, the Spanish club can be thankful they managed to beat Fortuna. If they hadn't, they'd have been unlikely to qualify for Europe next term . . .

CHAMPIONS' CUP

SEÑOR Yamandú Flangini, president of the Uruguayan F.A., has announced that plans for a World Cup Champions Cup next year in his country will be discussed next month. He says representatives of England, Argentina, Italy, West Germany and Brazil will meet to sort out details. With the Finals of the European Championship next June, I can't see England, West Germany and Italy — who are all likely to be in the Finals — being keen to play in South America as well.

RIVELINO'S goal in El Helal's 1-0 win over Nasser gave his club the Saudi Arabian title, with two matches still to go. The former Brazil star is the League's top scorer with 12 goals. El Helal's trainer, former Brazil boss Mario Zagalo, thus keeps up his record of having won at least one League title with each club he's been in charge of.

YOU'RE IN THE ARMY, NOW!

YOU may have wondered why Argentina's much-publicised superboy Diego Maradona doesn't look anything like the photos which have been appearing in the world's Press during recent months. The reason for Maradona's abrupt change in appearance is simply his haircut.

Nicknamed Fluff, he wore his hair long and curly, but he's now officially doing his military service and his new short back and sides is strictly compulsory!

But army life isn't too gruelling for the Argentinos Juniors midfielder — he's been given a plum job in the War Ministry in Buenos Aires and has permission to play football in the meantime.

A TRAGIC incident in Spain, where a 20-year-old player was preparing for the usual Sunday game. Sporting Mahones manager Martin Vences told the player he was in the team, and the midfielder went off home to lunch. He told his mother he'd be in the garage until lunch was ready, but when she went to fetch him she found that he'd hanged himself.

No one has yet discovered the reason for his unexpected suicide.

AUSTRIAN STARS GOING

FK AUSTRIA-Memphis (Memphis being the name of a cigarette) are Champions and League leaders by seven points in Austria. In the recent local derby against SC Rapid, their 144th meeting, they attracted a crowd of only 6,000. On those kind of gates they cannot keep players like World Cup stars Herbert Prohaska and top scorer Walter Schachner, who have Bundesliga clubs after them, because they cannot match the salaries the Germans can pay and they are sure to lose both stars in July.



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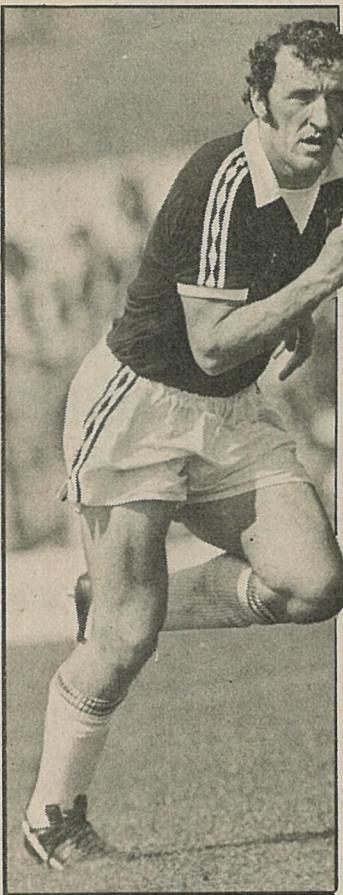
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'WRITTEN OFF - NOW WE'RE CHAMPS!'

Tartan Talk **DANNY
McGRAIN**

ager Billy McNeill called his "greatest ever night with Celtic."

That was on a Monday night and I couldn't sleep a wink until the Thursday because I was so high with emotion. It was just the most fantastic feeling when Murdo McLeod crashed in that fourth goal in the last minute and we knew we had done it.

So you can imagine what a ball of a time we had in Spain when the club took the first team pool for a week's holiday as a thank-you for our efforts. Word had reached the sunny country ahead of us that we were the new Champs . . . and the Spaniards just love football's winners.

Who knows, perhaps we will be back later in the year to take on Real Madrid in the European Cup.

But what about the gigantic effort which took Celtic from the club worst hit by the winter weather to a points roll-up which was good enough to win them the Championship of Scotland?

It was unreal the way it all happened.

To be honest it was not until six weeks or so before our last game that we really began to believe we could do it. We were written off by the Press and fans other than our own. They all called it a two-horse race between Rangers and Dundee United.

But after we were knocked out of both the Scottish Cup and the League Cup our eggs fell in one basket, and, in retrospect, that was a good thing.

It meant that we could concentrate on a good League run-in,

CHAMPIONS! You have no idea just how good it feels to be able to put that word in front of Celtic.

We won the Premier Division against all the odds and surprised everyone in doing it, perhaps, to be honest, even ourselves. But no one can deny that we won the title with anything less than style.

We needed victory over Rangers in our last match of the season at Parkhead to make sure of opening an unbreachable gap over our oldest rivals and so take the title back from them.

When they went one up it looked like a lost cause. When Johnny Doyle was sent-off and we were reduced to ten men it looked like the end of the world. But back we came to win 4-2 on what man-



Davie Provan
"desperate to win his first honour".

while Rangers were still in the European Cup, the Scottish Cup and had the held-over League Cup Final which was postponed from Christmas until the end of March.

By the time it came round to facing us at Parkhead in that last dramatic game all that and the Scottish Cup replay had made them a tired team. They were definitely feeling the pace.

We had come through the winter pressure of having more postponements than any other side and had bounced right back.

The boys were desperate to win . . . especially guys like Murdo McLeod and Davie Provan who were looking for their first honours in the game. Not that myself with four Championship, three Cup winners and one League Cup medal and Bobby Lennox who had already won ten titles, didn't fancy it!

Now it is into Europe and I wonder what lies ahead of us there.

People are already saying that they don't fancy our chances too much against the Liverpools, the Forests, the Real Madrids and the rest . . . but they were the doubters who said we weren't good enough to win the title.

Challenge

I think we could do well in Europe. I can't say we will win the European Cup for I challenge anyone entering the finest club competition in the world to foretell accurately what is going to happen.

But we will be nobody's mugs. No one fancied Rangers last term when they went in as Scotland's representatives — ask Juventus and PSV Eindhoven how they feel about that.

The important thing is that the players at Parkhead learn something from going into Europe. Celtic won the European Cup at the first attempt in 1967 and such is the talent of our youngsters I can only say "why not again?"

Half our team is under 22 and Bobby "Peter Pan" Lennox has the heart, lungs and legs of a teenager to add to his incredible experience.

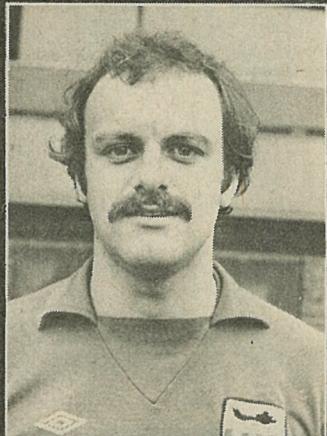
Maybe a year from now I will be starting this column . . . EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS!

See you in two weeks . . .

NEXT WEEK'S TARTAN
TALK BY RANGERS'
DEREK JOHNSTONE

SHOOT'S TRIBUTE
TO LEAGUE CHAMPIONS LIVERPOOL—
CONTAINED IN A SPECIAL FEATURE
WITH COLOUR PHOTOS — IN NEXT
WEEK'S ISSUE!

Also in colour: Farewell to Chelsea's Cat — Peter Bonetti; action from the recent FIFA 75th anniversary match between World Champions Argentina and Holland; Eire v. West Germany; Focus on Davie Provan (Celtic).



BARRY SIDDALL (Sunderland)

Features include: Soccer In The States — the second of an exciting summer series + the young managers who are reshaping the game + John Neal (Middlesbrough manager) + Barry Siddall (Sunderland) + Kevin Lock (Fulham) + Ian Gillard (Q.P.R.) + we announce the winners of our Most Exciting English and Scottish League Players of the Year trophies + news and views from Scotland + all your usual favourites such as News Desk, World Wide, Football Funnies, Ask The Expert, star-writers Ray Clemence, Andy Gray, Derek Johnstone, Gordon McQueen and Part Six of our Review of the past season.

All this and much more in SHOOT next week.

HIBS fans were caught in an upsurge of ecstasy and claiming the goal they had just witnessed as one of the best.

Afterwards, the goalscorer admitted it was a complete fluke! The goal was scored by Ralph Callachan against his former club Hearts and it proved to be the winner in a vital Edinburgh derby.

"It looked good, didn't it," he said, adding quickly, "but I've got to be honest and say it wasn't really quite what I meant."

To the fans it looked as though Callachan had flung a ball of uncanny accuracy high over the arms of Thomson Allan into the corner of the net, but the player said: "No, it wasn't meant as an effort at goal. I tried to cross the ball over for someone else, but it curled and went in."

"I'm not complaining, though. Every goal is welcome... they all count, after all, at the end of the day."

Callachan may have had luck on his side on that occasion, but the smooth, thoughtful midfielder hasn't always enjoyed the best of fortune. For a start, he was caught up in an amazing transfer tangle two years ago when he was signed by Newcastle from Hearts for



'THE BLACK PATCH IN MY CAREER'

By Ralph Callachan of Hibs

£70,000.

It was a dream move for the youngster, one he didn't hesitate to make at the time. He thought he was stepping into the big time... instead he was stepping into a forgotten world.

Richard Dinnis was the new manager who had just taken over and the player, apparently, was signed by the St. James' Park board. Dinnis obviously, as it turned out, didn't agree with their judgment.

He completely ignored Callachan, giving him little opportunity to show his form in the first team.

"It was a bit baffling," says Callachan, "and very disappointing. I was out in the cold and that's all there was to it. Obviously I became very unsettled. It was a black patch in my career."

Callachan made no secret of the fact he wouldn't mind returning North of the border and, apparently, Celtic showed an interest in taking him to Parkhead. Former manager Jock Stein took the opportunity of fielding Callachan in the famous green and white during Pat Stanton's testimonial match at Easter Road last year.

Afterwards Stein didn't make a

move, but Callachan must have done enough that afternoon to persuade the Hibs boss, Eddie Turnbull, that he still had style and poise.

Newcastle came in for Hibs' international right-back John Brownlie, the initial deal fell through before the defender went to St. James' Park and Callachan and some cash arrived at Easter Road.

Ralph didn't hit it off immediately, but towards the end of the season things improved. Why? He says: "We've changed the tactics slightly and it gives me a better opportunity to express myself. I'm really enjoying it now."

"The experience of Newcastle is well behind me. It taught me never to take anything in football for granted."

Callachan's refreshing honesty and whole-hearted attitude is to be applauded warmly. The player might have thought that the fates had turned against him during his short and unhappy stay in the South, but he has proved his courage and conviction by coming back to Edinburgh to start again and show that he is still a player with a marvellous future in the game.

He deserves to succeed.

'So sad — I couldn't collect my runners-up medal'

By STEVE ARCHIBALD of Aberdeen

could tell whether or not my team had won or lost.

If I clattered the gate behind me, that told him we had lost. If I closed the gate quietly we had won! I can't remember what I did when we drew.

Anyway, I felt awful after the League Cup Final, but I knew I would be back at Hampden to face Hibs in the Scottish Cup Semi-Final and we were favourites to win and I knew we were likely to play Rangers in the Final.

I scored against Hibs, but, alas, they scored twice — the winner coming from a penalty-kick by Ally MacLeod — and again I felt shattered. Hampden used to be one of my favourite grounds, but I'm not too sure now!

Well, we came so close, but I don't want to dwell on what-might-have-been. That's just not my style. I'll be looking to the future and I think it will be a bright one when you consider the amount of talent the manager, Alex Ferguson, has at Pittodrie.

We've got a useful blend of experience and youth and top class players in the likes of Willie Miller, Stuart Kennedy, Gordon Strachan and so many more.

Next season I'm hoping to be a winner. If we get a little slice of luck — and I think we deserve a fair share of fortune — then things really could go our way...



We apologise for not featuring the Scottish League results for last season, as advertised in last week's SHOOT. This was due to postal problems. They will appear as soon as possible.

Once again the goalkeepers have been made the scapegoats following Scotland's poor showing in the British Championship and the friendly against Argentina. But are the critics being unfair? 'Keepers with other nations have gone through bad patches before establishing themselves as international regulars. Our message to Scotland boss Jock Stein is to persevere with the Everton number one ...

STANLEY BAXTER, Billy Connolly and Andy Cameron are three Scottish comedians known throughout the showbiz world. Angry and cynical Scottish football fans will tell you they aren't the best Scottish comedians of recent years.

These fans will tell you Stewart Kennedy, Frank Haffey, Jim Herriot, Alan Rough and now the unfortunate George Wood have brought more than just a belly laugh while performing between the sticks for their country.

The aforementioned Scottish 'keepers — with the exception of Rough — have seen the Wembley wonderland turned to Wembley blunderland with their outrageous errors in crucial matches against 'The Auld Enemy' England.

Kennedy froze on a bright sunny afternoon as England launched five efforts into the back of his net. Willie Ormond groaned that day: "The English had six shots at goal ... and scored with five of them." It was exit for Kennedy after that woeful performance that brought a smile to everyone bar the Scots.

Before Kennedy there was Celtic's Frank Haffey, of course. He was never allowed to forget the



DON'T CHOP WOOD!

9-3 debacle in 1961. In fact, he almost conceded double figures because an effort from Jimmy Greaves was ruled out near the end for hand ball!

"It was an English plot," said former Rangers right-back and skipper Bobby Shearer who played that day. "The English played with an orange ball. Eric Caldow, my Ibrox partner, and I wouldn't kick it ... and Haffey was frightened to touch it!"

You have got to understand the religious bigotry North of the border before you can appreciate that little joke.

Jim Herriot, then with Birmingham, also gave one of the worst performances of his long career at Wembley as England rattled four behind him. Now, of course, comes George Wood, the man who cost Everton £140,000 two years ago from Blackpool.

Unless you have been visiting relatives in the Sahara you will know that England beat Scotland 3-1 at Wembley on May 26th.

Scotland took the lead through John Wark and looked as though they were going to run amok at one stage. Then, almost right on the half-time whistle, came the

first of Wood's nightmare moments.

Peter Barnes was allowed far too much room and time by Gordon McQueen to control the ball, wheel and shoot. His attempt lacked pace, but Wood was agonisingly slow in seeing the danger and the ball rolled in at the far post for the equaliser.

"Going along the tunnel at the interval Peter Barnes told me he only half-hit his shot," groaned Wood. "I was unsighted. I didn't see the ball until it was too late."

Worse was to come for the big, blond 'keeper, of course. In the second-half a long crossfield ball from Mick Mills found Chelsea's Ray Wilkins running in from the right.

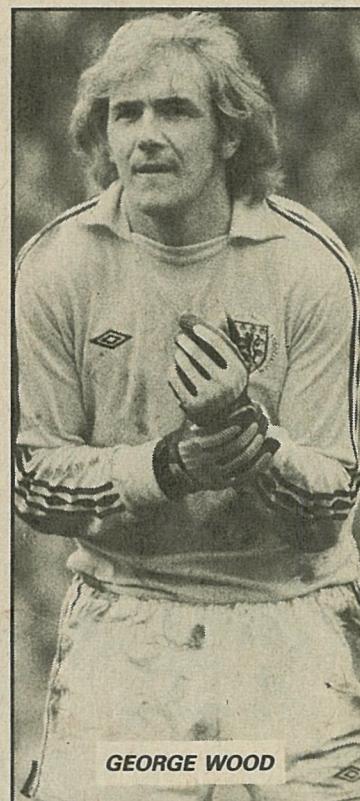
He fired a shot at goal and Wood moved to get his chest behind the ball. It looked like being an easy save, but the Wembley jinx struck again with a vengeance.

Wood couldn't hold the shot and allowed the ball to break from his grasp right to the feet of Steve Coppell, who could hardly believe his luck. He swiftly tucked it neatly away in the back of the net.

"I just wanted the ground to open up and swallow me," said Wood. "I should have held Wilkins' shot, I know that. Put the blame on me for that goal ... there's no getting away from it."

Wood was so upset by the blunder that he said: "That's my second game for Scotland and probably my last!"

Jock Stein, however, was quick to tell him that he was still very much in his plans, but he did say: "Yes, that was the turning point of the game. It was a bad mistake by



GEORGE WOOD

the lad. But I still have faith in his ability."

Stein selected Wood for the second-half of their friendly with Argentina.

The former East Stirling 'keeper — still "sick and sad" days after the Wembley match — got some consolation from England 'keeper Ray Clemence. Says Wood: "Ray told me not to worry as Wembley is a most difficult pitch to play on. I appreciated his thoughtfulness."

Alan Rough, who played at Wembley two years ago and emerged a winner as Scotland triumphed 2-1, lost his Scottish place to Wood for the game, but he says: "It just goes to show that no matter how big a club you play with or in which League, it is entirely different playing for Scotland. It's not easy ... believe me."

Rough, in fact, has watched several goalkeepers attempt to take

LEFT . . . Stewart Kennedy is helpless as another England goal goes into the Scotland net in 1975.
BELOW . . . Frank Haffey was between the sticks when England hammered nine goals past him in 1961.



over from him on a permanent basis and come unstuck.

Coventry's Jim Blyth played against Wales a year ago in the British Championship match at Hampden and was left looking aghast in the last minute as he rolled the ball out to left-back Willie Donachie who promptly rolled it straight back into the net. Neither Blyth nor Donachie were in Stein's recent pool!

Middlesbrough's Jim Stewart moved into the number one position for the European Championship match against the amateurs from Norway last season and had a bit of a nightmare.

The first goal came when he failed completely in an attempt to cut out a corner-kick. Scotland equalised and then the Norwegians silenced the 65,000 fans with a second goal. A ball to the near post

caught Stewart and Martin Buchan napping and a flying header put Norway in front again.

Eventually, Scotland won 3-2 with goals from Dalglish and Archie Gemmill (penalty), but Stewart has been out ever since and, in fact, even lost his first team place at Middlesbrough to Jim Platt at the end of the season!

Others have gone before and failed. Ally Hunter (ex-Celtic), Peter McCloy (Rangers), Jim Cruickshank (ex-Hearts), Bobby Clark (Aberdeen), Thomson Allan (Hearts) and David Harvey (Leeds) are all among the forgotten men although the Elland Road star was included as Number three goalkeeper in Stein's squad recently. Many still rate Harvey as the best Scotland have.

Where do Scotland go from here? Will Jock Stein look

elsewhere for a new 'keeper to stabilise a defence that has lost nine goals in the past two British Championships?

Our advice to the Big Man is simple . . . DON'T CHOP WOOD!

He looks the part. He is quick off his line, good in the air and with a little bit of luck he will obviously get better suited to the role of international goalkeeper.

He was given his chance against Northern Ireland and England and some of the fans are adamant that he blew it. We don't believe he has and neither, we are sure, does Jock Stein.

Wood hardly had magnificent cover from more experienced international players at Wembley. Gordon McQueen, for instance, didn't cover himself in glory with a lacklustre display that put an awful onus on Dundee United's Paul Hegarty, playing in only his third international.

And Frankie Gray, too, didn't look very clever when he allowed Wilkins the opportunity to come inside him and fire that shot at goal that led to Steve Coppell's score.

Wood, by his own admission, wasn't blameless. He should have held Wilkins' shot, but he didn't. Scotland must even take a leaf out of England's book.

Ray Clemence was given another chance after that dreadful boob at Hampden four seasons ago when he allowed a half-fit effort by Kenny Dalglish to slither through his legs to give Scotland the winner in a 2-1 victory.

Every international 'keeper has made a mistake in front of gloating millions on television. West Germany's Sepp Maier was like a figure from Madame Tussauds when Arie Haan exploded that 30-yard shot past him in the World Cup last year.

And Holland's Haan repeated the feat with another ridiculously long range effort against Italy. Veteran 'keeper Dino Zoff, rated as the best in the world by many shrewd judges, showed his reflexes weren't all that they should be when he allowed that shot to zoom over his shoulder.

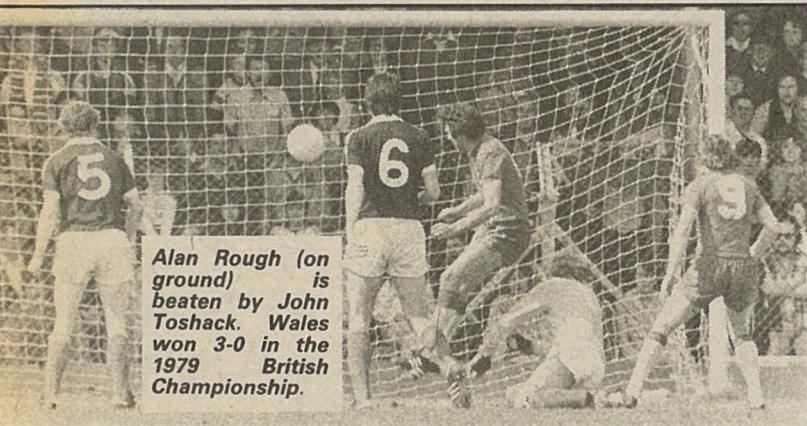
What about Brazil's goalkeepers in the recent past? Felix was surely one of the weakest in Mexico in '70, yet he still came out of the tournament with a World Cup Winners' medal.

Leao, cruelly christened 'the Son of Felix' by some Brazilians, actually captained Brazil in Argentina.

Ubaldo Fillol won a World Cup medal last year, but at the start of the tournament he looked like what he was . . . a replacement for Hugo Gatti, who had fallen out of favour with manager Cesar Luis Menotti. Yet he grew in stature throughout the tournament and had a superb game against Holland in the Final.

Scotland, then, will have to be patient. In George Wood and Alan Rough they have two fine young goalkeepers.

They may have been called comedians by some embittered Scottish fans, but they could still have the last laugh . . .



Alan Rough (on ground) is beaten by John Toshack. Wales won 3-0 in the 1979 British Championship.

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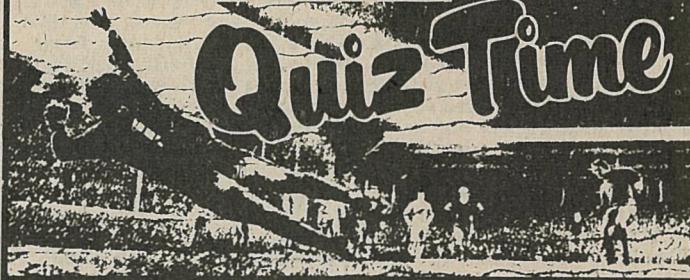
This and heaps more in the fishing weekly that's teeming with goodies —

Angler's Mail
OUT WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20th 18p



TAKE A BREAK—IT'S

Quiz Time



1. Which club signed Gary Owen from Manchester City for around £450,000?

2. This picture (below) was taken after Borussia Monchengladbach had beaten Red Star Belgrade in the U.E.F.A. Cup Final. Can you recognise the player who scored the West Germans' winning goal from the penalty-spot and which club is he joining next season?



3. The Republic of Ireland drew 0-0, 1-1 or 2-2 with World Champions Argentina in a friendly recently?

4. Which Third Division club — Blackburn Rovers, Brentford or Gillingham — wanted Stoke City's Howard Kendall to join them as player-manager?

5. Why did England midfield star Tony Currie ask for a transfer from Leeds United?

6. England Youths were beaten 1-0, 2-1 or 3-2 by Bulgaria in the European Youth Cup Semi-Final?

7. Bournemouth signed full-back Jeff Bryant (right) on a free transfer from which club?

8. Why did Terry Yorath withdraw from the Wales party for their European Championship clash away to Malta?

9. Rangers finally won the Scottish Cup when they beat Hibernian 3-2 in a second replay at Hampden Park. (a) what were the results of

the other two games and (b) who was the unfortunate Hibs defender who put through his own goal to give Rangers the trophy?

10. Brentford striker Andy McCulloch was transferred recently to Sheffield Wednesday or Sheffield United for a club record fee of £60,000?



EUROPEAN CUP

The European Cup Final between Nottingham Forest and Malmo was played on May 30th. Answer the following questions about the game.

11. Trevor Francis repaid a huge chunk of his £1 million transfer fee when he scored the only goal. Who supplied the cross for Francis?

12. Was it a header or a shot?

13. Where was the game played?

14. Who managed Malmo to the Final?

15. Forest became the third, fourth or fifth English club to win the trophy?

ANSWERS:

1. West Brom. 2. Allan Simonsen — Barcelone. 3. 0-0. 4. Blackburn Rovers. 5. He wants to move South. 6. Brussels. 7. Wimbleton. 8. He contracted an illness. 9. (a) Two 0-0 draws. (b) Arthur Dunn. 10. Wednesday. 11. John Barnes. 12. Wednesday. 13. Olympic Stadium, Munich. 14. Bob Houglum. 15. Third.

ACROSS:— 1) Dalglish. 6) We. 7) Pa. 8) Bramall. 11) Curve. 12) Title. 13) Reel. 14) Is. 15) Spent. 18) Ties. 20) To. 21) Eye. 23) On. 24) Elms. 26) Manner. 29) Riotous. 31) So. 32) Hurst. 34) Thrill.

DOWN:— 1) Doncaster. 2) Lawrie. 3) Liberty. 4) Spate. 5) Hamilton. 6) Willie. 9) At. 10) Lesser. 16) Polish. 17) Nest. 19) Inn. 22) Emu. 25) Moor. 27) Ash. 28) Easy. 30) Owl. 33) Us.

Jumbled Name: NEIL WHATMORE

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Swindon/ Liverpool

I've got an old programme, dated 6th October, 1970, for a Third Round League Cup-tie between Swindon and Liverpool. What was the result?

JONATHAN BURCHELL,
WILTSHIRE.

It was a 2-0 win for Swindon, Jonathan — old favourite Don Rogers putting both second-half goals past Ray Clemence.

But sadly for Swindon — who, of course, had won the Cup not long before in 1969 — they went out 1-0 at Fulham in the next round.

German airship

Is it true a German Airship once flew low over Wembley during a big match?

RICHARD GELL,
THIRSK.

True, Richard — in the 1930 Arsenal-Huddersfield F.A. Cup Final.

Best's debut

Can you tell me where and when George Best played his first full international?

JOE MOONEY,
BELFAST

The first of his 37 full caps for Northern Ireland — and how many more would there have been if Georgie hadn't opted-out? — was earned in a 3-2 win over Wales in Swansea on 15th April, 1964, Joe.

Best didn't score, but gave more than

enough teenage promise of his genius to come.

Another famous Irishman, incidentally, also made his full international debut in the same game — Pat Jennings.

20 stone 'keeper

Is it right Chelsea once had a goalkeeper who weighed more than 20 stone?

PAUL THOMPSON,
RUNCORN.

It certainly is, Paul. He was Willie Foulke — not surprisingly known as "Fatty" Foulke — who was Chelsea's first goalkeeper when the club was founded in 1905.

But he was still agile enough to play for England against Wales in 1897, while still a Sheffield United player.

6ft. 3ins. tall (and some said, nearly as

wide!) Foulke actually tipped the scales at around 25 stone when he finished his playing career with Bradford City.

Oddest transfer

What's the oddest transfer you've ever heard of?

MATTHEW REID,
STIRLINGSHIRE.

Well, Matthew, when the record fee reaches a million pounds, I sometimes wonder whether the whole transfer market isn't going crazy nowadays!

But I reckon the oddest move I've heard of was outside the League — and concerned a player named Jim Spelton.

Some years ago, he was transferred from Mossend Celtic to Holytown United for a "fee" of 30 large sheets of corrugated iron — which Mossend urgently needed to finish off fencing in their ground.

their first-ever meeting.

(SCOTT TURNER, Northwich)

Liverpool's League scoring record for a single season is held by Roger Hunt (41 in Div. Two in 1961-62).

(CHARLES SCULLY, Eire)

Pat Jennings played 48 League games for Watford, and then 472 for Spurs, before moving to Arsenal in August, 1977.

(YVONNE TEH SHUANG-LYNN,
West Malaysia)

Martin Peters played in 67 full internationals for England, scoring 20 goals (including one in the 1966 World Cup Final).

(LEE HARDY, Nottingham)

SHORT PASSES

Derby's record home gate is 41,826 (v. Spurs; Div One; 20th September, 1969).

(COLIN CHEANG, Singapore)

Oxford United were formed in 1896, and were elected to the League in 1962. Until 1960, they were known as Headington United.

(DEAN MILLER, Manchester)

England have only once beaten Brazil in 11 full internationals — by 4-2 at Wembley on 9th May, 1956;

'ALBION will be a knock-out in EUROPE'

"THIS is the finest West Bromwich side I've played in since I became a first team man in 1963. I'm disappointed we didn't win the title last season, but not shattered, and I'm looking forward to us being among the Championship contenders again in 1979-80."

This verdict on his club, delivered by Albion's long-serving Tony Brown, will not surprise those fans who saw The Hawthorns' outfit in action last term. But Brown also has praise for Liverpool, the First Division Champions, and the team West Bromwich tried unsuccessfully to overhaul between August and May.

In addition to West Bromwich earning a reputation throughout the country for their attractive blend of soccer in 1978-9, Brown himself gained personal acclaim by being voted the Midland Sportswriter's Footballer of the Year. Readers of a Birmingham newspaper gave him similar recognition.

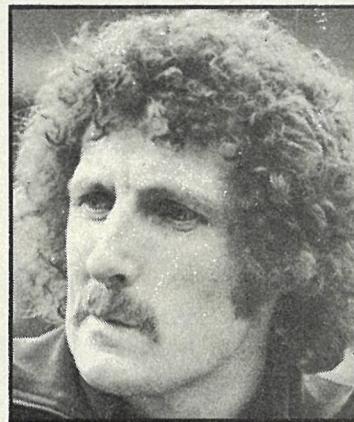
"I was reasonably pleased with my form, though I missed matches through injury. More important, it was the fine football that West Bromwich played before the spell of icy weather that brought me

most satisfaction. It proved we could hold our own with the best in the First Division, and the side was well-balanced right through.

"Surprisingly, one reporter at the start of the season had tipped us as relegation prospects, and I'm glad we were able to show he was wrong. Any team that is ambitious to win something, must have a capable defence — and I thought ours was the best in the League. John Wile and Alistair Robertson in the back-four were able to bring on Brendon Batson and Derek Statham, and I believe Derek to be the best young full-back around.

"The attacking football that we played whenever possible was often triggered off by the men at the back — they were the foundation on which we built. For my part, I was pleased with my role, pushing forward from midfield and able to get goals.

"But scoring today is harder



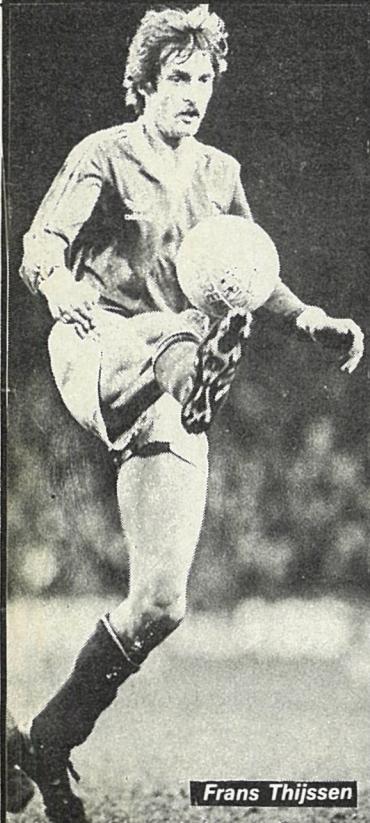
than it was when I started out in 1963. However, the happiest memory of my career dates back to the 60's and the F.A. Cup Final we won against Everton in that period.

"The worst time for me was on the occasion we were relegated, in 1974. But another unforgettable memory is that of our last game of the season at Oldham a couple of years later. We had to win to secure promotion to Division One, and I got the only goal of the match."

Nowadays, Tony is more concerned with looking ahead, rather than back, though he is cautious about making predictions.

"It's not easy to say which teams will be in contention for the title next term, because a lot can happen in a few months. Having said that, I won't be surprised to see last season's teams at the top being up there again — Liverpool, Leeds, Nottingham Forest are three, and I feel Aston Villa will be among the leaders following their bad patch of injuries last season.

"As for West Bromwich, our manager, Ron Atkinson is determined to see we maintain a strong pool of players, and we'll be out to do even better in future. We have Europe to look forward to and are better-equipped to deal with the Continentals than ever before. So without being too optimistic, I'm hoping that 1979-80 will be good for us."



Frans Thijssen

WHEN Ipswich Town fans were asked to cast their votes in the annual Player of the Year poll it soon developed into a one-horse race.

The result was a landslide win for Dutch mid-field man Arnold Muhren, in his first season at Portman Road and the first-ever English import from Holland.

Muhren speaks excellent English but let his football do the talking as his new side spluttered along on one cylinder until Christmas

'THIJSEN'S better than me'—MUHREN

when a marvellous run of 23 games and just two defeats saw them climb the table to clinch a place in next season's U.E.F.A. Cup.

The Muhren magic was a significant factor in the Ipswich resurgence. Not only did his devastating left foot carve out openings for the strikers, it also did a fair amount of damage itself and earned him eight League goals.

But the 27-year-old Dutchman is no overnight success. The display cabinet in the lounge of his modern bungalow home on the outskirts of Ipswich bulges with medals and trophies won in his native country.

Pride of place goes to the European Cup medal he collected as an Ajax player in 1973 when his teammates included such familiar names as Johan Cruyff, Johan Neeskens, Johnny Rep and Rudi Krol.

It looked as if Muhren would be returning to Amsterdam when he failed to agree terms with FC Twente last summer but the once-mighty Ajax, now playing to gates of under 8,000, could not afford the £150,000 asking price.

That was when Ipswich made their move and now manager Bobby Robson raises a smile every time Muhren's name is mentioned. "That could well be the best bit of transfer business I ever do for this club," smiles the Portman Road boss.

Muhren, capped twice for Holland and included in their preliminary World Cup squad of 40 for Argentina, had no misgivings about having to move to England. "I was attracted by what I knew of the game over here," he admits.

"Other players in Holland would like to come to England because the football is better. It is too much like a game of chess over there, not so exciting for the spectators."

As well as establishing himself as a firm favourite with the Ipswich fans, Muhren's exceptional skills have won him many admirers up and down the country as he has helped Ipswich to one of the best away records in the League.

"I enjoy the games at big grounds like Anfield, Old Trafford and Highbury but the one thing that has helped me settle quickly is the way the Ipswich people have accepted me. Even when I'm in the town with my wife and family they come up to shake my hand."

"On the field it has been okay because now I know the style of the other players and they also know me better."

"Ipswich tended to use the long ball to the forwards a lot more than the midfield players saw less of the ball. Now I feel more involved and my form has improved."

Muhren signed a two-year contract for the club with a one-year option but hints that he is so happy he could be talked into stay-

ing for another period once it expires. One ambition he hopes to fulfil is to play at Wembley — and that would mean another Cup Final appearance for Ipswich.

"I know how much it means to players in this country," he says. "It is just the same abroad because every player wants to be able to say he played at Wembley."

"I watched Ipswich winning the F.A. Cup last year on television and never realised I would be joining the club. I hope I can help them win it again."

Muhren's success in the Ipswich blue played a key role in persuading his former FC Twente teammate Frans Thijssen to join up at Portman Road in February in a £200,000 deal.

Thijssen, capped seven times for his country, is a more aggressive mid-field player with exceptional close control. When Bobby Robson mentioned he would like to strengthen the engine room of his team Arnold came up with the answer.

"I recommended Frans because I knew he would fit in well at Ipswich," says Muhren. "I think Mr Robson is very pleased with him and I would say he is a better player than myself."

Only time will tell if Muhren's judgment is correct. But if it is then maybe the Ipswich fans will make it a "Double Dutch" by selecting Thijssen as his successor to the Player of the Year throne.

Arnold Mühren was chosen as Ipswich Town's Player of the Year deservedly, as the Dutch midfielder has made a tremendous impact with the East Anglian club. Fittingly, he was presented with the trophy by another foreigner who has done so well, Spurs' Osvaldo Ardiles.



SHOOT!